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THE ARMY.

W. T. SHERMAN, General of the Army of the United States.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S
OFFICE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 30, 1872.

General Orders No. 111.

I. Major William D. Whipple, assistant adjutant-general, and Major Orlando M. Poe, Corps of Engineers, will be relieved from their present duties, and report to the General of the Army for duty on his staff January 1, 1873.

II. Until further directions, the orders of the General of the Army will be issued by him through the assistant adjutant-general on his staff, and copies of all such orders will be forwarded as soon as issued to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

III. The regular monthly returns, the muster rolls, and all reports required by Army Regulations to be made direct to the Adjutant-General of the Army, will continue to be made as at present. All correspondence properly calling for action or comment by the General of the Army will be sent through him.

IV. The recruiting service will be conducted by the Adjutant-General, under the direction of the Secretary of War.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending
December 30, 1872.

Tuesday, December 24.

Discharged.—Sergeant Michael Hays, Company B, Battalion of Engineers, U. S. Army; Private Edward O'Connor, U. S. Military Academy Detachment of Artillery; Private James H. Stewart, Company K, Twentieth Infantry.

Captain R. F. O'Beirne, Twenty-first Infantry, will report in person to the Superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York City, to accompany the first detachment of recruits ordered to the Pacific coast.

Transfer.—Privates James Spencer and George H. Taylor, General Service U. S. Army, now on duty at Headquarters Department of Dakota, to the General Service Detachment, Headquarters Military Division of the Atlantic; Bugler Charles Hanks, Battery G, First Artillery, now in confinement at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., undergoing sentence of a General Court-martial, is hereby transferred to Company I, Fifth Infantry, stationed at that post.

[There were no Special Orders issued from the office of the Adjutant-General on Wednesday the 25th, and on Saturday the 29th of December, 1872].

Thursday, December 26.

The leave of absence granted Captain Thomas J. Lloyd, Eighteenth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 250, November 25, 1872, from Headquarters Department of the South, is extended thirty days.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant Charles E. Hargous, Fifth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 184, November 11, 1872, from Headquarters Department of the Missouri, is extended ninety days.

The sum of \$390, the value of five horses, the property of the United States, and for which Captain A. E. Hooker, Ninth Cavalry, is responsible, will be stopped from the pay of First Lieutenant L. H. Rucker, Ninth Cavalry, to whom the horses and an escort of four men had been furnished, and from whom the horses were stolen on the morning of the 24th of July, 1872, while encamped near Finley's rancho, Texas.

On the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, Colonel Rufus Ingalls, Assistant Quartermaster-General, is assigned to duty as Chief Quartermaster Military Division of the Atlantic, and will report as such to Major-General Hancock, commander the division. Colonel Ingalls will retain the immediate charge of the principal depot of the Quartermaster's Department in New York.

On the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, Colonel L. C. Easton, Assistant Quartermaster-General, is relieved from duty as Chief Quartermaster Military Division of the Atlantic, and will remain in charge of the General Depot of Philadelphia and Schuylkill Arsenal.

Discharged.—Recruit Jacob L. D'Haan, Mounted Service U. S. Army; Recruit Jacob L. D'Haan, alias Jacob Levy, Mounted Service U. S. Army; Private Thomas Dawson, Company E, Fifth Cavalry.

Friday, December 27.

First Lieutenant S. B. Jones, Fourth Artillery, having reported at this office in compliance with Special Orders No. 234, December 23, 1872, from headquarters Post of Raleigh, North Carolina, will proceed without delay to join his battery at Fort Cape Disappointment, Washington Territory.

Assigned.—Trumpeter Peter Wilson, Mounted Service U. S. Army, to the Seventh Cavalry.

Second Lieutenant Eugene O. Fechet, Second Artillery, is relieved from duty with the Chief Signal Officer of the Army in order to avail himself of the leave of absence granted him in Special Orders No. 306, November 26, 1872, from this office.

Monday, December 30.

Leave of absence is granted the following named officers: Surgeon Joseph H. Bill, for thirty days, with permission to apply for thirty days extension; Captain James M. Robertson, Second Artillery, for six months, on surgeon's certificate of disability.

Discharged.—Hospital Steward Frank A. Baxter, U. S. Army; Private Aubert N. Hurd, Company D, Fifth Infantry; Hospital Steward Henry d'Aroy, U. S. Army.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Acting Assistant Surgeon J. R. Gregory is relieved from duty in the Department of Texas, and will report in person to the commanding general Department of California for assignment to duty.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieutenant-Gen. P. H. Sheridan: Hdq'r's Chicago, Ill.

DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Brigadier-General Alfred H. Terry: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.

Sixth Infantry.—First Lieutenant E. B. Gibbs, aide-de-camp, December 27 was ordered to Austin, Minn., under special instructions from department headquarters. Upon the completion of the duty he was ordered to rejoin his proper station.

Fort Totten, D. T.—A correspondent writing from this post under date of December 15 says: "Last Thursday morning (12th) about three o'clock the garrison of this post were awakened by the 'long roll.' As Indians have been the one subject talked of here lately, of course the first thought of almost every one was that we were about to have a visit from our 'Red brethren.' But the alarm proved to be occasioned by a fire in the woodshed at the rear of Lieutenant-Colonel Hunt's (commanding officer) quarters. The boys were promptly on the ground, and as water was scarce, it was some time ere the flames were subdued. Fortunately the fire was confined to the shed whence it originated. The fire was caused by hot ashes which had been placed in a barrel. Last night (14th) at half past ten o'clock there was another alarm, and this time it proved to be a chimney of one of the officers' quarters. This post is badly provided against fire. Water has to be brought a long distance, and there is but one fire extinguisher at this post, and a small one at that. If the night on which the first fire occurred had been windy (as it generally is here) it would be hard to imagine the extent of the damage. 'Forewarned is forearmed.' The post is garrisoned at present by two companies of the Twentieth Infantry, E and H, and twelve Indian scouts. The duty here at present is not very hard. The men are on guard every fourth or fifth day, and there is some fatigue work, such as cutting wood and sawing logs. Ice-cutting will commence shortly, and will last about a month. The health of the garrison is good, and the discipline and moral status of the men excellent; for witness—there are no prisoners in the guard-house. I have been at a number of posts since 1866, and this is the first one at which the latter circumstance has occurred.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

Brigadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.

A. A. Surgeon J. J. Magruder, U. S. Army, December 21 was ordered to Santa Fe, N. M., reporting upon arrival to the commanding officer District of New Mexico for assignment to duty.

A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Chicago, December 31, 1872. Detail for the court: Major R. A. Kinzie, paymaster U. S. Army; Captains D. H. Brotherton, Fifth Infantry, R. P. Hughes, Third Infantry, Wyllis Lyman, Fifth Infantry, Clayton Hale, Sixteenth Infantry; First Lieutenants Thomas H. Logan, Fifth Infantry, Ernest H. Ruffner, Corps of Engineers. First Lieutenant Quintin Campbell, Fifth Infantry, judge-advocate.

Colonel De L. Floyd-Jones, Third Infantry, was, December 24, relieved from duty as member of the General Court-martial convened at Fort Hays, Kansas, by par. 2, S. O. No. 203, c. s., and Major C. E. Compton, Sixth Cavalry, detailed as member.

Sixth Cavalry.—Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Second Lieutenant C. C. Morrison, acting engineer officer District of New Mexico, Dec. 21.

A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Riley, Kansas, December 23. The following officers of the Sixth Cavalry were detailed for the court: Colonel James Oakes, Captains C. B. McLellan, Daniel Madden, First Lieutenants C. H. Campbell, W. Harper, Jr., Second Lieutenants Robert Hanna, J. A. Ruoker. First Lieutenant G. E. Overton, judge-advocate.

Fifth Infantry.—Instructions of the department commander of November 29 directed First Lieutenant Granville Lewis, and ten enlisted men of the Fifth Infantry, to proceed from Denver, C. T., to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.

Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord, Headquarters, Omaha, Nebraska.

Thirteenth Infantry.—First Lieutenant Henry M. McCawley, December 14 was relieved from duty as judge-advocate of the General Court-martial instituted by paragraph 1, S. O. No. 176, c. s., from department headquarters, to enable him to obey the order detailing him on recruiting service.

Captain D. S. Gordon, Second Cavalry, and Captain Jas. T. McGinniss, Thirteenth Infantry, Dec. 20 were relieved as members of the General Court-martial instituted by paragraph 1, S. O. No. 176, c. s., from department headquarters, and First Lieutenant William Auman, and Second Lieutenants Marcus W. Lyon and Benjamin H. Gilman, Thirteenth Infantry, were detailed as additional members of the court. Captain James T. McGinniss, Thirteenth Infantry, at the same time was appointed judge-advocate of the court.

Eighth Infantry.—Leave of absence for thirty days with permission to apply for an extension of twenty days was granted Second Lieutenant J. W. Summerhayes, December 20.

Leave of absence for thirty days with permission to apply for an extension of thirty days December 17 was granted Captain William S. Worth.

Fort Sanders, W. T.—Captain Samuel Munson, Ninth Infantry, and First Lieutenant Thomas J. Gregg, Second Cavalry, December 18 were assigned to duty with a detachment of one hundred and eight recruits Second Cavalry, and ordered with twenty to Cheyenne, and eighty-eight and one prisoner, Third Cavalry, to Fort Sanders. Having performed this duty, Captain Munson and Lieutenant Gregg were directed to return to their station at Omaha Barracks.

Second Cavalry.—Leave of absence for thirty days, to take effect upon the adjournment of the General Court-martial instituted by paragraph 2, S. O. No. 220, c. s., from department headquarters, and after Second Lieutenant W. A. Dinwiddie, Second Cavalry shall have returned from detached service under date of December 19, was granted Captain David S. Gordon, Second Cavalry, with permission to apply for an extension of thirty days.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE SOUTH.

Major-General I. McDowell: Hdq'r's, Louisville, Ky.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Colonel W. H. Emory: Headquarters, New Orleans, La.

Assistant Surgeon J. V. D. Middleton, U. S. Army, has been relieved as member of the General Court-martial appointed by par. 1, S. O. No. 197, c. s., from department headquarters.

Assistant Surgeon R. S. Vickery, U. S. Army, December 14 was assigned to duty at Jackson Barracks, Louisiana.

Nineteenth Infantry.—Colonel C. H. Smith, December 20 was ordered to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on business connected with that post. Second Lieutenant George H. Cook, acting regimental adjutant, December 20 was relieved from duty at department headquarters, and ordered to join his proper station—Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

Major-General W. S. Hancock: Hdq'r's, New York.

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

Maj.-Gen. W. S. Hancock: Hdq'r's, cor. Greene and Houston sts., N. Y.

Leave of absence for twenty days was granted Surgeon C. C. Byrne, U. S. Army, December 19.

Assistant Surgeon Washington Matthews, U. S. Army, December 19 was ordered to Willett's Point, N. Y. H., for temporary duty as post surgeon.

Assistant Surgeon Augustus A. Yeomans, U. S. Army, has been tried before a General Court-martial, convened at Fort Preble, Me., of which Colonel H. J. Hunt, Fifth Artillery, is president, on the charge of "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." The specifications were: That he, while wearing his uniform as an officer of the Army, was drunk in the streets and other public places of Portland, Me., to the scandal and disgrace of the service; that he, while wearing his uniform as an officer of the Army, entered a drinking saloon in company of an enlisted man, also in uniform, and publicly drank at the bar; that he was in such a state of intoxication in the streets and other public places of Portland, Me., as to attract public and marked attention, and was lodged at the police station of the city by the police; these occurring on the afternoons and nights of Wednesday and Thursday, November 6 and 7, 1872. To the charge and specifications the accused pleaded "Not guilty," but the court found him guilty, not of the charge, but of "conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline," in violation of the 99th Article of War, and of the specifications, with certain minor verbal changes which we have made as we give them. The sentence was, "To be suspended from rank for the period of eight months, and to forfeit all of his pay, except eighty dollars thereof per month, for the same period." The proceedings are approved by Major-General Hancock, commanding Department of the East; the findings to the specifications are approved; the findings to the charge are disapproved; the sentence is disapproved. Were it practicable, with due regard for the public interests, the court would be reconvened, and an opportunity afforded it to reconcile its findings, which, as they stand, are clearly at variance. While the gist of the offence set forth in the specifications—that the conduct of the accused brought scandal and disgrace on the service—is found by the court to have been established, it ignores the only article of war under which the specifications could properly be laid, and finds the accused guilty of an infringement of another article, which was framed to meet cases of minor importance. That an officer of the Army, clothed in its uniform, can appear intoxicated in the public streets of a large city, under circumstances found to be scandalous and disgraceful to

the service, and not thereby be guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, is a view which the department commander cannot adopt. In his opinion, it is better for the interests of the service that the accused should escape punishment for his offence, save such as he may experience from the humiliation of his position, than that official sanction should be given to so low an estimate of the professional obligations of an officer, to so conduct himself that he shall bring no discredit upon the military service. The accused, Assistant Surgeon Augustus A. Yeomans, will be released from arrest, and restored to duty. The General Court-martial convened at Fort Preble, Me., is dissolved.

Fort Columbus, N. Y. H.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., December 23. Detail for the court: Major M. M. Blunt, Fourteenth Infantry; Assistant Surgeon A. H. Hoff, U. S. Army; Captain Thomas Britton, Sixth Infantry; First Lieutenant Charles Keller, Second Infantry; First Lieutenants A. F. Pike and C. W. Harrold, Third Artillery; Second Lieutenant Ira MacNutt, Third Artillery. First Lieutenant J. B. Burbank, Third Artillery, judge-advocate.

Third Artillery.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., December 23. The following officers of the Third Artillery were detailed for the court: Captain William Sinclair, First Lieutenants J. R. Kelly, J. L. Tiernon, James Chester, and J. B. Eaton, and Second Lieutenants A. T. Abbott and C. W. Hobbs. First Lieutenant A. E. Clarke, judge-advocate. The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant J. D. C. Hoskins, by his post commander, was extended twenty days, December 18.

Columbus Arsenal.—"Private Prim" writes us, under the date of Christmas, thus enthusiastically: "Soldiers are not, I believe, as a rule supposed to enter into the gayeties and festivities of the holidays to a very great extent, it being the presumption that they are strongly predisposed to hard-tack, salt junk, and bean soup. Could any of our worthy citizens have seen the detachment at this post at dinner to-day they would doubtless have changed the base of their opinions. Our dinner (I do not say it boastfully) was not only a credit to the detachment and the corps to which it belongs, but to the whole Army. I do not believe that the Army to-day produced its equal. And here permit me to remark that these annual dinners are good things in more senses than one. They not only feast the soldier to satiety, and make him feel strangely at peace with himself and his comrades, but they are new and strong links in his chain of attachment to the service, and cause him to feel at home in the Army. With such a caterer and cook as Corporal Stutefeldt our dinner could not fail of success. And here permit me to observe that good caterers and cooks are as important to a company as good company officers. The latter can command obedience, but the former reach the soldiers' affections, and incline him to contentment with his lot by powerful appeals to his appetite. I wish that our soldier friends on the frontier could have feasted—their eyes—upon the good things under which our table groaned. Turkeys, chickens, ducks, and geese, mashed potatoes, ham, eggs, and oysters, fruits of various kinds, cakes and pies, all tempted the taste. We had wine, too; none of the adulterated stuff bearing that honorable name, but genuine Rhine wine. The hospital steward tendered us a bottle of cognac, but the majority of the men being inclined to temperance, it was politely refused. A toast proposed by Sergeant McGrath, 'May we all live to enjoy the return of many such a Christmas,' was drunk standing. Other toasts and a few appropriate responses were made, and then the men retired from the table as happy as possible. I might add that we ordinarily live well, for soldiers, and that our everyday fare and the dinner of holidays are all produced out of the Government rations. There is something in good management, and in knowing what to do and how to do it, after all."

DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.

Brigadier-General P. St. G. Cooke: Headquarters, Detroit, Mich.

Par. 1, S. O. No. 119, November 16, 1872, from department headquarters, was revoked December 23.

First Infantry.—The leave of absence for ten days granted First Lieutenant Allen Smith, adjutant, December 13, from department headquarters, December 23 was extended ten days.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

Major-Gen. J. M. Schofield: Headquarters San Francisco, Cal.

Fourth Artillery.—Roster of commissioned officers of the Fourth Artillery:

Colonel—Horace Brooks, Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., commanding regiment and post.

Lieutenant-Colonel—Joseph Roberts, Fort Monroe, Va., instructor at Artillery School.

Majors—Albion P. Howe, Louisville, Ky., on detached service as disbursing officer; Joseph Stewart, Sitka, Alaska, commanding post; Charles H. Morgan, Alcatraz Island, Cal., commanding post.

Captains—John Mendenhall (G), Point San José, Cal., commanding battery and post; Richard Loder (I), Fort Monroe, Va., commanding battery; Marcus P. Miller (E), Fort Stevens, Oregon, commanding battery and post; C. B. Throckmorton (M), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., commanding battery; Evan Thomas (A), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., commanding battery; Henry C. Hasbrouck (B), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., commanding light battery; John Egan (K), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., on detached service at Military Academy; Joseph B. Campbell (F), Alcatraz Island, Cal., on leave of absence; Frank G. Smith (H), Cape Disappointment, W. T., commanding battery and post; Appleton D. Palmer (L), Alcatraz Island, Cal., on leave of absence; George B. Rodney (D), Sitka, Alaska, commanding battery; Harry C. Cushing (O), Sitka, Alaska, commanding battery.

First Lieutenants—Eugene A. Bancroft (Q. M.), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., present sick; Edward

Field (B), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., on detached service, conveying recruits to Fort Yuma, Cal., since Nov. 27, 1872; Arthur Morris (I), Fort Monroe, Va., with battery; John W. Roder (Adj.), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., present; John P. Story, Jr. (A), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., on detached service at Military Academy; James M. Marshall (C), Sitka, Alaska, on detached service at Military Academy; George G. Greenough (G), Point San José, Cal., absent without leave; Frederick Fuger (F), Alcatraz Island, Cal., commanding battery; William Ennis (H), Cape Disappointment, W. T., on detached service as A. D. to Gen. Schofield; Edward O. Newkirk (C), Sitka, Alaska, with battery; Richard P. Strong (E), Fort Stevens, Oregon, on detached service as signal officer, Fort Whipple, Va.; James P. Hazelton (B), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., with light battery; George W. Sheldon (I), Fort Monroe, Va., present in arrest; Charles S. Smith (K), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., on detached service as signal officer Fort Whipple, Va.; H. H. C. Dunwoody (D), Sitka, Alaska, on detached service as signal officer Fort Whipple, Va.; Robert Craig (L), Alcatraz Island, Cal., on detached service as signal officer Fort Whipple, Va.; Augustus P. Greene (L), Alcatraz Island, Cal., present in arrest; Charles F. Humphrey (G), Point San José, Cal., with battery; Mathew C. Grier (M), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., on detached service conveying recruits to Fort Yuma, Cal. (left post November 27, 1872); James C. McCoy (F), Alcatraz Island, Cal., on detached service as A. D. C. to General of the Army; Albion Howe (A), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., on detached service at Yerba Buena Island, Cal.; William F. Stewart (D), Sitka, Alaska, on detached service at Alcatraz Island, Cal.; Crosby P. Miller (E), Fort Stevens, Oregon, on detached service as post Q. M. Presidio, San Francisco, Cal.; Samuel R. Jones (H), Cape Disappointment, W. T., on detached service at Raleigh, N. C.; Arthur Cranston (M), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., with battery; Walter Howe (K), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., on detached service at Artillery School.

Second Lieutenants—Horatio M. Jones (C), Sitka, Alaska, absent without leave; Peter Leary, Jr. (F), Alcatraz Island, Cal., with battery; John Simpson (B), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., with light battery; Sidney W. Taylor (B), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., with light battery; William Everett (I), Fort Monroe, Va., with battery; Harry R. Anderson (L), Alcatraz Island, Cal., on detached service as A. D. C. to General Canby, Portland, Oregon; Geo. M. Harris (K), Presidio, San Francisco, Cal., commanding battery; William R. Quinan (D), Sitka, Alaska, with battery; Edward S. Chapin (E), Fort Stevens, Oregon, with battery.

This regiment we learn only lost eight men by desertion in making the transfer from the east to the Military Division of the Pacific. No men were transferred to other regiments before the change took place.

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

A. A. Surgeon H. W. Boone, U. S. Army, December 19 was assigned to duty at Fort Hall, Idaho, relieving Acting Assistant Surgeon H. G. Manzy, U. S. Army, of his duties at that post, who upon being relieved was ordered to report to the commanding officer of Fort Hall, Idaho, for the annulment of his contract as acting assistant surgeon, U. S. Army.

Twelfth Infantry.—Second Lieutenant H. L. Haskell, at Camp Independence, Cal., December 19 was ordered to report to the commanding officer Angel Island, Cal., for temporary duty at the headquarters of his regiment.

DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

Brigadier-General E. R. S. Canby: Headquarters, Portland, Oregon.

Fourth Artillery.—Upon the arrival of Company H at Fort Cape Disappointment, the detachment now stationed there under orders of December 12, was directed to join its company at Fort Stevens; and First Lieutenant John M. Ross, Twenty-first Infantry, at the same time was ordered to Fort Vancouver, reporting to his regimental commander.

Second Artillery.—Leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to leave the limits of the department, December 9 was granted First Lieutenant Louis V. Cazare, Second Artillery, aide-de-camp.

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.

Lieutenant-Colonel George Crook: Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.

The Indian Campaign.—Under date of December 6 we learn that the campaign against the hostile Apaches is being prosecuted with vigor. General Crook and a part of his staff are at Camps Apache or Grant. The late scout in the vicinity of the San Francisco mountains resulted in the killing of thirteen warriors, the making of a number of captures, and the destruction of a large quantity of winter supplies. The troops in the northern part of the territory are all on the move. Six separate commands left Camp Verde lately, having been met there by Captain Nickerson, aide-de-camp, with instructions. The troops from Camps Date Creek and Hualpai are all operating in conjunction with each other, and about one hundred warriors have been killed within the last two months. Indians lately hostile are enlisted to operate against those persistently hostile, and accompany the troops. The Tucson Citizen of December 14 says: "The Indians of Camp Grant were possessed of an idea that General Crook wanted them to camp near the post, so that he could, and would, murder them; the result of former teachings. Inspector-General Brown was there early in this month, and in talks with them convinced them of their mistake, and they then agreed to do whatever Crook required. Soon after General Crook arrived and enlisted about forty Indian scouts, and they seemed pleased at the prospect of a fight with Delche's band. By this time two military scouts are out from Grant, accompanied by the Indians. Before leaving Apache, General Crook enlisted forty-seven Indians, and they are now out with a party of troops from that post. He has troops and Indians out from Verde also, and with all the forces now at work there is hope that if Cochise remains quiet the hostile Indians will soon be glad to beg for peace. The Indian agents are heartily co-ope-

rating, as far as we can learn, with the General, and if they are not interrupted the movements now in operation will be continued till the presence of large bodies will no longer be required in Arizona. It is now settled that Cadette, chief of the Mescalero Apaches at Fort Stanton, was killed by Juan Cojo, an interpreter, traveling with him. The Indians over whom he was chief are behaving themselves very well, and no outbreak is feared.

Fort Whipple, A. T.—A General Court-martial December 6 was ordered to assemble at Fort Whipple, A. T. Detail for the court: Captain Thomas McGregor, First Cavalry; First Lieutenants G. A. Goodale, Twenty-third Infantry, Max Wessendorff, First Cavalry, W. J. Volkmar, Fifth Cavalry; Second Lieutenants F. L. Dodge, Twenty-third Infantry, P. H. Hogan, First Cavalry. First Lieutenant O. W. Pollock, adjutant Twenty-third Infantry, judge-advocate.

THE Herald reports: The attempt to secure the competition of our best sculptors for the proposed statue of General Rawlins utterly failed. Whether none of them could see how the statue of a general in the Army could be so devised as to make it the 'centre piece of a fountain in Franklin Square,' or whether they hesitated about coming in competition with Dr. Stone, the Mills family, and Vinnie Ream, or whether they did not regard General Babcock, Commissioner of Public Buildings, Spofford, the Congressional Librarian, and Clark, the architect of the Capitol, as suitable judges, is not known; but no artist of recognized fame did present a model, and those which were submitted to the commission to-day in the White House were stiff, ungainly affairs. A decision had to be made, however, and the award was in favor of the model submitted by J. A. Bailey, Philadelphia. It represents the lamented Rawlins in a general's uniform, with a Grant Army hat and a ponderous dragon's sword. The unsuccessful candidates were Fisk Mills, Charles Ostler, and Horatio Stone of this district; B. M. Pickett and Charles Drischler, of New York, and H. D. A. Henning, of Baltimore. Vinnie Ream did not compete, but she hopes to receive the order for the statue of Farragut, for which there will be competition in February. It was suggested at the meeting of the commission to-day that if the Rawlins statue must grace the centre of a fountain, he should be represented in a rubber suit, holding an umbrella over his head with his right hand and having a weather report in his left hand."

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington:

Baylor, C. G., Colonel.	McNevin, Captain.
Johnson, Captain.	Lawrence, Samuel, General.
	DECEMBER 31.
Henk, H. C., Captain.	Moore, Geo. H., Captain.
	Young, James L., Captain.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

DECEMBER 27.—Commander A. A. Semmes, preparatory orders to the Navy-yard, Pensacola, Fla.

DETACHED.

DECEMBER 24.—Lieutenant Frank Turnbull, from the Brooklyn, European Station, and granted one year's leave to recover his health.

DECEMBER 30.—Passed Assistant Surgeon D. Dickinson, from the Marine Barracks, New York, and ordered to the Hospital at Yokohama, Japan, per steamer of the 1st of February.

REVOKED.

DECEMBER 30.—The orders of Passed Assistant Surgeon H. M. Rundlett to the hospital at Yokohama, Japan.

LOCATION OF NAVAL OFFICERS.

COMMENCING this week, January 4, and running through several numbers, we shall publish the stations and duties of naval officers, classifying all the officers of one vessel under the heading of her name and fleet, or duty, and officers on the same duty will be placed under the same heading. This register will be correct as far as the date of the naval orders published in the JOURNAL of the previous week. The orders published in the same number as the register should be consulted in referring to it. Particular attention has not been given to placing the officers according as they number in the regular Navy Register.

NAVY YARDS AND NAVAL STATIONS.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Chiefs of Bureaus.

Ordnance—Rear-Admiral A. L. Case.
Navigation—Commodore D. Ammen.
Equipment and Recruiting—Commodore W. Reynolds.
Yards and Docks—Commodore C. R. P. Rodgers.
Provisions and Clothing—Paymaster-General E. T. Dunn.
Medicine and Surgery—Surgeon-General J. C. Palmer.
Steam Engineering—Engineer-in-Chief J. W. King.
Construction and Repair—Chief Constructor I. Hanscom.
(The last four officers have the relative rank of commodore.)

Bureau of Ordnance—Lieutenant-Commander F. Pearson.
Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting—Commander L. A. Kimbely.

Bureau of Yards and Docks—Commander B. B. Taylor.
Bureau of Provisions and Clothing—Pay Director H. Bridge, chief inspector; Pay Director J. S. Cunningham, inspector; Paymaster C. P. Thompson; P. Asst. Paymaster A. W. Bacon; Asst. Paymaster W. M. Preston.

Bureau of Medicine and Surgery—Surgeon R. C. Dean; P. Asst. Surgeon J. G. Ayres.
Bureau of Steam Engineering—First Asst. Engineer W. S. Nicoll; Second Asst. Engineers H. Main, C. P. Howell.

Naval Observatory.—Rear-Admiral E. F. Sands, superintendent; Commander J. H. Gillis; Lieutenants J. Hazlett, F. W. Greenleaf; Master A. Ross.

Hydrographic Office.—Commodore R. H. Wyman, superintendent; Commander J. W. Shirk, assistant; Lieutenant-Commanders G. W. Sumner, J. B. Coglan, F. M. Green, H. H. Gorringe, J. Schouler, F. McCurley; Lieutenants S. Belden, R. D. Hitchcock, C. P. Shaw, E. B. Thomas.

Commodore J. J. Almy, chief signal officer; Medical Director W. M. Wood, inspector-general of hospitals; Pay Inspector G. E. Thornton, purchasing paymaster at.

Navy-yard.—Rear-Admiral L. M. Goldsborough, commandant; Captain J. C. Beaumont, temporary duty as executive; Commanders A. W. Weaver; L. A. Beardslee, equipment duty; M. Sicard, inspector of ordnance; Lieutenant-Commanders T. F. Kane, ordnance duty; F. Rodger, asst. inspector of ordnance; Lieutenant C. C. Todd, ordnance duty; Master-G. V. Morris; Mates—J. W. Baxter, S. Lomax; Medical Director—N. Pinkney; Asst. Surgeon—P. E. Biely; Pay Director—T. H. Looker; Chief Engineer—E. Fithian; First Asst. Engineer—S. L. Smith; Chaplain—M. Noble; Naval Constructor—G. W. Much; Civil Engineer—F. A. Stratton; Boatswains—G. Willmuth, J. S. Sinclair; Gunner—A. F. Thompson.

Naval Hospital.—Medical Director—C. Eversfield; Asst. Surgeons—R. A. Marmion, H. M. Martin.

Naval Magazine.—Gunner—C. Stuart.

ANNAPOLIS.

Naval Academy.—Rear-Admiral John L. Worden, superintendent; Captain S. E. Carter, commandant of midshipmen; Commanders—J. A. Greer, in charge of grounds; A. F. Cook, F. V. McNamee, A. R. Yates; Lieutenant-Commanders—S. D. Greene, S. D. Ames, W. S. Schley, A. H. McCormack, G. P. Ryan, O. A. Batcheller, C. W. Tracy, R. D. Evans, G. K. Haswell, G. W. Coffin, W. W. Hendrickson, N. Ludlow, C. E. Clark, C. F. Goodrich, H. U. White, F. E. Chadwick, J. C. Kennett, C. J. Train; Lieutenants—T. A. Lyons, J. E. Craig, W. Brownson, M. R. S. Mackenzie, J. O. Soley; Medical Director—M. Duvall, naval hospital; Medical Inspector—P. Lansdale; Surgeon—G. R. Brush; Acting Asst. Surgeon—J. Taylor; Pay Inspector—J. D. Murray, paymaster; Paymaster—J. Furey, storekeeper in charge of vessels; Chief Engineer—H. S. Snyder; First Asst. Engineer—T. Cooper, G. W. Roche; Second Asst. Engineer—J. C. Kafer, C. N. Manning, R. Crawford, J. S. Ogden, G. H. Kearney; Chaplain—J. B. Van Meter; Asst. Naval Constructor—T. D. Wilson; Gunner—J. Southwick.

Gunnership School.—Lieutenant-Commander—W. H. Farquhar, temporary duty in charge of practice-ships; Mates—T. W. Bonsall, L. M. Melcher, J. Rogers, W. G. Smith.

Practice-ship Dale and Yacht America.—Boatswain—T. Bennett; Mate—B. Silver.

Amphitrite (iron-clad).—Mate—C. J. Murphy.

Phlox (steam tender).—Mate—B. G. Perry, in charge.

Experimental Battery at Fort Madison.—Gunner—D. A. Roe.

THE RAM ALBEMARLE.

In conformity with an act approved April 1, 1872, the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia re-examined the prize case of the ram *Albemarle* and by a decree rendered July 9, 1872, appraised the value of the vessel at \$282,856.90—thus leaving a deficiency due to the captors of \$302,912.90. They have heretofore received as prize money the difference only in those amounts. There was, however, no appropriation out of which this sum could be paid, and the Secretary of the Navy asked Congress to make the necessary provision to cover the case. The Deficiency Bill introduced by Mr. Garfield December 12, provides for an appropriation of \$202,912.90 to pay the captors of the *Albemarle*. The bill was under discussion on the 16th of December, in the House, when Mr. Garfield made the following remarks:

"Gentlemen of the House will remember the gallant exploit of Lieutenant Cushing, who ran his torpedo under the bottom of the rebel ram *Albemarle*, and exploded it so successfully that she went down in three or four minutes. That ship was raised, her machinery taken out, and the value of the hulk, without armament, was awarded to the captors. They appealed to Congress to give them not only the value of the hulk, but of her machinery and armament at the time of her capture. Congress at the last session authorized the court to reconsider the case on that basis. They have so reconsidered it and made a new award. We now in this bill merely make an appropriation to carry out the award of the District Court of the United States for this district. There are few brighter pages within naval history of the United States than that which records the destruction of the *Albemarle*. She held a position which blocked the progress of both our Army and Navy. She was a remarkably strong vessel and held the mouth of the river. Our Army stood on one shore powerless to assail her. None of our vessels of war in the neighborhood were able to cope with her, and she held the river and harbor where she lay in absolute control. Lieutenant Cushing and his little party, at the imminent peril of their lives, with a frail launch carrying a torpedo, pushed boldly under the bow of the ram and plunged the torpedo under her bottom. He held in his own hand the slender line which was attached to the fuse, and when he felt the touch of the torpedo against her bottom he pulled the string amid the blaze of the enemy's guns, and produced the explosion that instantly shattered his launch to pieces and threw himself and his crew into the river, and in three minutes left the ram and her armament at the bottom of the bay. While Lieutenant Cushing and party were swimming for life, the enemy opened fire upon them from the opposite shore and killed some of the party; but with great skill and courage, and rare good fortune seven escaped. If we measure the value of service by results, the award made in this case is the cheapest expenditure of money that we could possibly make."

REFORM VERSUS CHANGE OF UNIFORM.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I see by the JOURNAL of a late date, that an effort is being made to change the uniform of the Marine Corps.

There are no reasons given, but it is stated that the present uniform has been worn for fourteen years, and that the Army and Navy have changed their's several times lately.

Now, Mr. Editor, there are many officers who think the change of uniform when there is no necessity for it, is a luxury only suitable to the wishes of those who have a private income in addition to the poor pay of a subaltern of marines. If the present uniform is not handsome enough to suit the fanciful tastes of some, they should be satisfied to know that it is neat and soldierly, and as a whole suits the majority of the corps, especially those who wore it with pride during the late war.

But there are reforms more important than the cut of a coat, or the pattern of the breeches, reforms which are vital to the welfare of the corps. Thorough military education of officers at headquarters, and strict examination before promotion to any grade; complete regulations for the whole service ashore and afloat, as authorized by the act of Congress approved 1798; a proper assignment to duty, so that two officers will not be doing duty at one post while seven or eight are "doing the elegant" at another; the abolishment of sinecures, and the exaction of lawful duty from all, to the end that a few faithful officers will not have to go to sea in the place of the favored ones who draw extra pay in fancy positions, seemingly established for their convenience.

These are a few of the measures which it is the duty of all officers to advocate, and without which the glorious history of the Marine Corps will become clouded and of no avail against the action of those who wish its destruction.

This then is no time for a change of uniform. There is more important work for those who have the improvement of the service at heart; and when reform is established all will join to "start the ball," and attend to the gold lace.

X.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

CADET MIDSHIPMAN W. S. FLANNAGAN, recently dismissed from the Academy, has been restored.

THE Naval-General Court-martial of which Captain W. D. Whiting was presiding officer, and which was in session at the Navy-yard, New York, has been dissolved.

THE *Hartford* arrived at Gibraltar on the 28th of November, and expected to continue her voyage, on the 2d of December, to China, passing through the Suez canal.

THE *Lackawanna* was at Hong Kong, China, November 11, also the *Colorado*, both of which vessels expected to leave on the 18th November, for Singapore. The boats of the *Lackawanna* participated in the annual race at Shanghai. The cutter was beaten, but the gig took the purse both days, beating the racing gig of the station. The *Lackawanna's* gig is one of Mr. Pook's construction.

REAR-ADMIRAL James Alden, commanding our naval force on the European station, writes to the Secretary of the Navy under date of Ville Franche, France, November 29, 1872, as follows: "Sir: I beg leave to report to the Department that the remains of the late First Assistant Engineer Truman M. Jones, whose death has been already reported, were conveyed from Cartagena to Nice in this vessel, he having expressed the wish to be buried there, and were interred yesterday with all the customary honors on such sad occasions. I would here like to convey to the Department my own appreciation of Mr. Jones's conduct and abilities. Prompt and energetic in the performance of duty, he was always found at his post, and ever reliable. The service, in his death, loses a valuable young officer in the very prime of his days and usefulness, and his messmates a genial friend whose absence from their midst will be severely felt."

THE *California*, flag-ship of Rear-Admiral A. M. Pennock, commanding the North Pacific Station, sailed from San Francisco on December 29 for Honolulu. Her departure has been hastened by the death of His Majesty the King of the Hawaiian Islands, of which information has been recently received. She was, previous to the receipt of intelligence of the King's death, under orders to Honolulu, and would have sailed thither at an early day. It is understood that His Majesty had contemplated a visit to the United States, and that a passage would be offered him by our Government to San Francisco, in the *California*. The *Benicia* has preceded the *California* and is probably now at Honolulu. Should any embarrassment arise, in consequence of changes in the affairs of the Government resulting from the death of the late King, it is important that some of our vessels should be present. The *California* may, therefore, be detained somewhat longer at the islands than was at first contemplated.

REAR-ADMIRAL T. A. Jenkins, commanding the Asiatic Station, in a despatch dated the 5th of November last, at Hong Kong, calls attention to the distinguished gallantry of Lieutenant-Commander Douglas Cassel, executive officer of the *Ashuelot*. During exercise at general quarters at Tien-tsin on the Peiho river, the carpenter's mate was sent over the side of the *Ashuelot* and owing to the giving way of the lanyard he fell into the river, having on at the time a heavy pair of canvas slings, tools, etc., which rendered him helpless. Lieutenant-Commander Cassel jumped overboard and succeeded in getting the carpenter's mate on the port quarter-raft, and in keeping him there until a boat could be got to his assistance. Rear-Admiral Jenkins writes: "Knowing from my own recent observation of the Peiho river at Tien-tsin the great personal peril which Lieutenant-Commander Cassel unhesitatingly incurred in jumping into the always rapid, and, at the time of the occurrence, the swollen and turbulent current, to rescue

from drowning one of the ship's company, I beg leave to represent his act as of the most honorable, manly, and courageous kind. But for Lieutenant-Commander Cassel's very prompt, self-reliant, and self-forgetful action, the carpenter's mate who had fallen overboard in the discharge of his duty at general quarters, would inevitably have been drowned; and but for his coolness, resolution, and strength Lieutenant-Commander Cassel himself might have met the same fate. I have the honor and pleasure to respectfully commend Lieutenant-Commander Cassel's heroic action to the special notice of the honorable secretary."

THE authorities at Cherbourg having paid unusual honors to the remains of the late Gunner Homer, Rear-Admiral Alden, commanding the European station, has addressed the following letter to the Secretary of the Navy on the subject. Rear-Admiral Alden avails himself of the occasion to pay a tribute to the worthiness of the deceased:

FLAGSHIP WABASH, 1st rate, U. S. EUROPEAN FLEET, }
VILLE FRANCHE, FRANCE, Nov. 29, 1872. }

Hon. Geo. M. Robeson, Secretary of the Navy.

SIR: The enclosed correspondence which I have the honor herewith to send, will explain itself, and as extraordinary honors were paid by the authorities at Cherbourg to the remains of our deceased brother officer, I am sure that the Department will be pleased to add its acknowledgments to those already extended to them by myself.

I would desire also herewith to convey to you my high estimation of the ability and worthiness of the deceased, Mr. Homer, who was late gunner of the *Wabash*, was a faithful and energetic officer in the performance of all his duties, had served since 1858, was twice wounded in the late war, and his loss will, I am sure, be regretted by all who knew him. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES ALDEN,

Rear-Admiral U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. N. force on European Station.

THE Navy Department has accepted the highest bids received at auction recently for the *Guerriere* and *Albany*, and those vessels will therefore soon close their career in the Navy. There are other vessels which, it is thought, can be disposed of with advantage to the Government, among them the *Delaware* and *Susquehanna*, at New York. A board of officers has been appointed to examine and appraise these two steamers, with a view to offering them at public sale, if considered advisable. Commander Trenchard, Chief Engineer Wood, and Naval Constructor Much have recently, under orders of the Department, visited the New York yard on this duty. The iron-clad *Colossus*, at present on the stocks, is to be examined for the purpose of determining whether it would be to the interest of the Government to complete her or what disposition should be made of her. On the Pacific coast it is quite likely the *Resaca* will be offered for sale.

THE *Portsmouth*, having completed all arrangements for the surveying service on which she is engaged, put to sea on the 23d inst. from New York for the Pacific. A general outline of the work which has been laid out for her has already been indicated in the JOURNAL. The importance of a resurvey of portions of the Pacific Ocean and a re-examination of reported dangers cannot be too highly estimated. Many of the islands are improperly located on the charts, and some laid down have no existence. This has been found the case in a few instances coming under observation in the recent cruise of the *Narragansett*. Commander R. W. Meade was unable to find the Faguin Islands, the position of which is assigned latitude 0 deg. 46 min. N., longitude 173 deg. W. He reports that "these islands have no existence in the assigned position, and are not thought by mariners in the Pacific Ocean to exist at all." Regarding Phoebe Island, he reports: "I proceeded to search for Phoebe Island, said to exist in latitude 0 deg. 11 min. N., longitude 177 deg. 18 min. W. There is no shoal or island within twenty miles of the assigned position, and the guano searching vessels have been wholly unable to find any island in this locality. The ship, at 6 P. M., July 31, was over the exact position assigned by all the charts to Byron Island, and, as we could see no sign of land, I went to for the night. From information received I knew that Byron Island existed (over a degree further west than the charts located it), but was anxious to disprove or verify its existence as placed on all the charts. Next day we sighted it seventy-two miles further west than the charts locate it, and made a running survey of the southwest and south sides of the island. It is not a lagoon island, and is so narrow that the opposite beach can be seen from the masthead across the intervening land. There is no anchorage for large vessels, and but poor anchorage for small ones; no outlying dangers exist; and the island is heavily timbered with cocoanut and pandanus trees, making it visible at the masthead at a distance of eighteen miles. Nukunan is the native name. It is densely populated (apparently), as we counted fourteen large villages within a space of eight miles. Two Samoan teachers reside in the island. They belong to the London Missionary Society, and have made some progress towards Christianizing the natives, who seem quiet and friendly, but have no form of government, each household being ruled by its own head in patriarchal style. The island produces nothing but cocoanuts and pandanus, which, with fish, constitute the food of the islanders."

THE rebel war steamer *General Sumter*, which was captured in the engagement near Memphis, June 6, 1872, between the Mississippi Flotilla, under Rear-Admiral Charles S. H. Davis, and a fleet of rebel gunboats, and which was somewhat cut up, was subsequently taken into and lost in our service. Some years after which proceedings in prize were instituted in the District Court for the District of Columbia, under the 28th section of the act of June 30, 1864, and a decree of con-

denation was made—adjudging the vessel to be good and lawful prize. The vessel was appraised at \$100,000, and this sum should have been distributed to the captors, but there was no appropriation from which the Secretary of the Navy could draw to deposit the necessary amount in the Treasury. Under the decree of the court and the provisions of the statute the captors are entitled to the appraised value of the *Sumter* as prize. The Secretary of the Navy has, in the case of the *Sumter*, presented the facts to the appropriation committees of the Senate and House, with authenticated copies of the appraisement and decree of condemnation, and suggested that an appropriation be made to enable the Department to deposit with the Treasurer the necessary amount, subject to the order of the court.

The *Yantic* arrived at Zanzibar December 10. Captain Wilson with the United States Consul, John F. Webb, and the officers of the ship visited the Sultan on the 11th. They were received by the troops and met by the Sultan in front of the palace. Captain Wilson represented to the Sultan the sentiments of the American people in regard to slavery, and requested the abrogation of the clause of the treaty with England. The Sultan's reply was received on the 17th. He says: "Thirty-three years ago I was forbidden by my father Said Said to export slaves to Muscat; the slaves now carried there are stolen by Arabs and tribes from the Persian Gulf. I will make strong efforts in the future to prevent the kidnapping of these slaves, I will make every effort." The English corvette *Briton* arrived at Zanzibar, December 12, and waits for Sir Bartle Frere. The *Yantic* also waits. Two other English vessels are expected here.

THE Philadelphia Press says that the *Quinnebaug*, 1,000 tons burden, is now on the stocks undergoing repairs, and her armament will consist of eight guns of heavy calibre. It is the intention of the proper authorities to place in her an improved compound engine. The *Saugus* lately on the stocks at Cramp's ship-yard at Richmond, has had important additions, repairs, etc., made to her armor, hull, and deck, it having been ascertained that she was in a wretched state, especially as regarded the wooden beams supporting the deck, which were in a condition of rotteness. The *Manhattan* is being overhauled at Cramp & Son's ship-yard, while the *Ajax* is being repaired at the Navy-yard. Both have had their decks and beams removed, and it is contemplated to place the most perfect of iron beams in the place of those discarded on account of their rottenness and weakness. These beams are three and a half inches wide by three and a half inches thick, and are strengthened by angle iron of the proper thickness. The boilers of the *Ajax* are being overhauled and strengthened. Brass tubes instead of wrought iron ones are being introduced. The iron deck plating of these vessels, being remodelled, will consist of one and one-half thickness of wrought iron, in double plates, above which will be placed a wooden pavement one inch or less in thickness. The side armor of the monitors has been greatly strengthened, but to what extent remains to be found out by those who may batter against their solid walls. The *Richmond's* armament consists of twelve nine-inch shell guns, of an average weight of nine thousand pounds; two Parrott one hundred pound rifle guns, whose average weight is nine thousand seven hundred pounds. All of these are mounted in broadside. Besides, there is a Dahlgren twenty-pounder rifle, weighing one thousand three hundred and forty-six pounds, mounted on the fore-castle as a pivot gun; also, four howitzers, to be used as boat and field guns.

THE naval monument designed by Admiral Porter, and ordered by Congress to be erected "to the memory of the officers, seamen, and marines of the United States Navy who fell in defence of the union and liberty of their country" during the late war of the rebellion, 1861-1865, is now under construction at Rome by the American sculptor, Franklin Simmons. The monument is to be of *ravaccone* statuary marble, and will cost \$25,000. When completed, which will be in about one year from the present time, it will be shipped to this country and erected in the grounds of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md. The base consists of three steps and a platform, sixteen feet square, of best quality American white marble, with concrete foundations and brick, or stone backing and filling. From this platform rises the monument proper, consisting of a base and shaft—the latter eight feet nine inches by five feet nine inches. The crowning figures are "History" and "Grief"—the former recording the deeds of the fallen heroes, the latter weeping on her shoulder—each nine feet in height. On the base of the pedestal is a figure of "Victory," seven and a half feet high, crowning two youthful figures, one with the trident of Neptune, the other with the sword and helmet of Mars, representing the Navy and Marine Corps respectively, while at the four corners are balls of marble, each twenty inches in diameter. The entire height of the monument, from the ground to the top of the crowning figures, is forty-two feet, and it will occupy the summit of a mound raised four feet above the surrounding ground. A bill has been approved by the President authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to transport the monument in a Government vessel, free of duty. The fund for this monument was contributed by the Navy and Marine Corps.

An officer of the Navy furnishes us with the following rule for constructing a national flag. The size of the flag depends, of course, on the breadth of the stripes, the breadth of the flag equalling thirteen stripes (the number of States in the Union at the time of the Revolution) alternately red and white, the upper and lower stripe being red. The length of the flag equals twenty-two and a half stripes. The Union, or blue square at the upper hand corner nearest the flag-staff, equals in length two-fifths of the length of the flag or equals the breadth of nine stripes, and the breadth equals seven stripes (which gives a white stripe next below the union). The stars in the union (one for each State existing) now (1st January, 1873) thirty-seven, are arranged

in six perpendicular rows of six each, and one star following the centre of the last row thus.

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A CORRESPONDENT writes us from the Marine Barracks, Portsmouth, N. H., as follows: "Quite a celebration of the happy season came off at these barracks on the 25th. The men's mess room, kitchen, and quarters, were hung with evergreens, and beautifully decorated with mottoes of the season, cut from illuminated paper, and framed with green. The Christmas dinner was a really fine one. The men had all they wanted in the way of turkey and 'goodies' of all kinds, and afterwards smoked their 'regalias' with seeming gusto. This post is in splendid condition. The men look on the barracks as their 'home,' and the few desertions, and generally good conduct prove that systematic kindness mingled with stern discipline is the true way to make men respect and do honor to the service."

THE friends of officers of the Navy, writing to them on foreign stations, should be very careful in the matter of the prepayment of postage. Delays are constantly occurring in consequence of short postage. Letters short paid are not forwarded to foreign stations by the post offices, but under law and regulation are sent to the Dead Letter office, at Washington. As a matter of course such letters are transmitted to the Navy Department, which has to assume the responsibility of getting them to their destination. All this involves a detention oftentimes of a month at least, where mail communication is monthly only, as in the case of mails for Brazil and China. The full rate of postage should be paid, and care should be taken that the additional amount is paid when the weight for single rate is exceeded. The single postage (not exceeding a half-ounce) to Brazil is fifteen cents by American packet, and to Buenos Ayres eighteen cents. The rates by British mail are twenty-eight cents. To China and Japan via San Francisco, the postage is ten cents. To Aspinwall and Panama it is ten cents.

THE TOUR OF THE AMERICAN FLAG.

UNDER the above title the London *Broad Arrow* gives the following account of "Sergeant" Bates's carrying the American flag through London. The adventure of this wretched humbug has, it seems, been taken in good earnest in England. We give the subjoined to show how the fellow imposed on the English people, and also because it gives an indication of how kindly the feeling of the working classes is toward us:

On Saturday Color-Sergeant Bates completed his self-imposed task by carrying the Stars and Stripes through the metropolis into the heart of the city of London. He had purposed accomplishing this last stage, like the rest of his journey, on foot, but his friends represented to him that in such case it would be a matter of extreme difficulty to make his way through the crowds that were certain to attend his march. The streets were also in an evil condition for a pedestrian, and had not been rendered more agreeable by the rain which had fallen during the night, so that the Sergeant was at length persuaded to avail himself of an open carriage, which had been kindly placed at his disposal by Mr. Holland, who has taken a great interest in the progress of Sergeant Bates, and who had undertaken the arrangement of the proceedings of the day. Sir John Bennett had kindly offered the use of his carriage, but an open carriage was the only one that could be used in conveying the flag and its bearer through the streets so as to be seen by the people. During the course of the sergeant's walk Mr. Holland has met him at various points, and has afforded him from time to time a good deal of useful information upon points connected with the details of local topography. During Friday evening the Telegraph Hotel at Shepherd's Bush, where Sergeant Bates stopped for the night, was in a continued state of siege, and the sergeant was, in fact, compelled several times to hold small levees. In the morning, as the hour approached when he was to start upon his last day's journey, crowds began to assemble in the road, and these increased until many hundreds were gathered together near the hotel. At about half past ten the carriage, drawn by a pair of grays, on one of which rode the postilion, drew up at the door. Rain began to fall heavily, and the carriage roof had to be closed for a time, but as the time for the departure drew near it was again opened, and two flags—the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes—were placed at the back so as to hang out behind. The rain was not so heavy when, at about half-past eleven, Sergeant Bates made his appearance and mounted the back seat of the carriage. His appearance was the signal for some rounds of hearty cheering, which he acknowledged by bowing and waving his hat to the crowd. The carriage proceeded at a foot pace toward London, while the crowd pressed round to shake hands with the sergeant, one of the first who succeeded being a burly sweep, who rushed through the crowd evidently fresh from his morning's work, and whose left hand held his soot-bag and brush, while his right left its mark plainly impressed upon the hand of the sergeant. The crowds became rather greater as the carriage came through Notting Hill, while down the cross-streets came constantly working men by twos and threes rushing through to seize the hand of the sergeant. The crowd for the most part here consisted of decent working people, while further on, and through Oxford street, a large proportion appeared to belong to the classes in more easy circumstances, the windows and balconies along the route being also occupied by gazers of both sexes, who waved handkerchiefs in token of welcome. The crowds in Oxford street were very great, and the carriage at length turned down Bond street, where the

reception was as enthusiastic as before. Those near the carriage had been for some time begging to be allowed to unharness the horses and to draw the carriage on, and were with considerable difficulty prevented from carrying out their proposal. At length, just opposite Mr. Benson's house, they took off the traces, some five-and-twenty of them holding on to the pole and its straps, and drawing the carriage for the remainder of the route. The course marked out was through St. James's street, and on reaching Pall Mall the Sergeant saluted the Royal Palace, halts being made for a moment for the same purpose at Marlborough House, the Guard's Club, the United Service Club, the War Office, and the Army and Navy Club. The monument to the Crimean heroes was also saluted in passing, as also the Nelson Column in Trafalgar Square. Not many flags were displayed along the line, but wherever the English or American ensign appeared within saluting distance, it was duly honored, and on reaching Temple Bar a salute was given in honor of the city of London. Fleet street and Ludgate Hill were densely thronged, and lusty cheers greeted the flag and its bearer as they were slowly drawn along the line and up to St. Paul's. Thence the route was by Cannon street and Queen Victoria street to Queen street, across Cheapside into King street, and up into Guildhall yard, which was a dense mass of people, among whom it was not at first very easy to perceive a veteran Sergeant Brown, now a member of the Corps of Commissioners, who held aloft the English standard. This, however, was duly saluted, and the men who drew the carriage, either not comprehending what was said to them, or not choosing to heed it, dragged it right in under the porch and up to the steps entering the Guildhall. The scene that ensued beggars description; the police were in small force, and were utterly powerless to effect anything, and when the occupants of the carriage dismounted, with a view of entering the hall, the place was found to be too full to admit of any increase in the number of its occupants. It was then determined to enter the carriage again and to speak from the centre of the yard; but the difficulty was how to reach it, although it was not more than three yards distant. The crowd were happily in excellent humor, and desirous of assisting Sergeant Bates, but so dense was the throng, now increasing in consequence of those in the hall coming out, that as he and those of his party advanced the carriage was borne away from them, so that, though moving through the crowd for some yards, in the course of a few minutes they were still no nearer apparently to the attainment of their object. The pressure in the crowd was equal to that which was experienced in the Poultry on the night of the marriage of the Prince of Wales. At length those next to the Sergeant lifted him upon their shoulders and hoisted him bodily—flag and all—into the carriage, while the rest of his party, by a succession of violent efforts, managed to regain their former positions, none the worse for the pressure they had experienced. And here it must be said that the good temper and orderly conduct of the crowd, notwithstanding this unavoidable pressure, was remarkable, for there was no attempt at any violent pushing or driving through.

Having taken his stand on the seat of the carriage, and again acknowledged some hearty cheers from the crowd, the Sergeant obtained silence and said: "Englishmen, I have but a few words to you, for I am not a man of many words, and it needs not many to explain to you the origin of the journey which I have undertaken. A year ago, in America, in my own home in Wisconsin, I asserted to my countrymen that the people of England were friendly to us Americans as a nation, and that America was respected by Englishmen. My friends asserted the contrary. I repeated my assertion, and said I would carry the American flag from one end of England to the other without its being treated with any disrespect. A merchant of Illinois offered to bet me a thousand dollars to a hundred that I could not do it, and I accepted the wager. No doubt a great many of my countrymen thought I was wrong and a great fool, but I felt certain I was right, and I came over to this country. I tell you fairly that my first idea was to win this thousand dollars for my wife and children, but after I had reached this country I thought differently; I thought that if I conducted the affair properly it might result in good, and I determined to carry it out on purely patriotic principles, so that if good did not result it should not be my fault. So, after I had started from Scotland, I mailed a letter to my friend in Illinois, telling him that I resigned the wager, and he might take the hundred dollars, but that I preferred to go through England from other motives. I did expect that this march would do some good, and I was determined that it should. I felt that I could rely upon the honor of Englishmen. It has been asserted by the press that this is a Yankee test of English feeling toward the States, but as far as I am concerned, it is no test. It is only a proof that I was right. I did not cross the Atlantic for a test, but to prove that I was right when I said the English people respected America. Well, I have had a wonderful reception. I have met with nothing but the kindest treatment. I have not had even a cross look from any one. My own countrymen on the other side of the Atlantic have been watching the progress of the tour of my flag with the greatest interest, and therefore I am gratified that the English people have proved that I was right. I have only one or two more words to say. As one of the most humble citizens of my country, allow me to thank you for the honor and kindness with which you have received me to-day, and for the way in which you have received the flag of America."

Loud cheers greeted the conclusion of this speech, after which the carriage was drawn out of the Guildhall Yard and thence into Moorgate street. While passing up to Finsbury Pavement some champagne was brought out and presented to the Sergeant and party, and, after a short halt, the horses were at length put to, and the carriage taken at a rapid pace to the Langham Hotel, where the Sergeant is at present staying. In the evening he dined at the Savage Club as the guest of a member,

THE CLOSING DAYS ABOUT RICHMOND.

I. THE CAVALRY CORPS IN THE DEATH THROE OF THE REBELLION.

BY AN OFFICER OF THE CORPS.

The long lines of the Union and Rebel armies were confronting each other about Petersburg. Within easy musket range, from the Charles City road to Richmond, north of the James river, crossing both the Appomattox and the James, and running along the south side of Petersburg, away to the west beyond Hatcher's run, a distance of nearly forty miles, were two continuous lines of rifle-pits and forts, skirmish lines and batteries and earthworks of every conceivable size and shape, behind which, on both sides stretched the camps of troops from every State of the Union. Lee's army on the north, representing the last hope of an effete and rebellious oligarchy; Grant's army on the south, representing the industry, intelligence, nationality, wealth, and power of an outraged and determined people.

While there was in one army that desperate valor which broke through the Union lines at dawn on the 25th of March, and captured Fort Steadman, there was with the other a calm, heroic determination, that consciousness of right and might which the same morning retook that stronghold from the enemy, and sent him "whirling" beyond his own entrenchments. The Rebel army was recovering from the shock, and before the Union troops had appreciated the extent of this handsome battle and victory, won by the Ninth corps alone, the Lieutenant-General had opened that "short, sharp, and decisive" campaign which, in eleven days, resulted not only in the capture of Petersburg and Richmond, but of the veteran host which upheld the rebellion, and with which the brave old Army of the Potomac had waged three years of bloody combat.

Following the battle of Fort Steadman were important movements of troops from the north to the south side of the James river, and other new dispositions took place on the 27th and 28th of March. But Grant's army cannot be said to have commenced its campaign until Wednesday, March 29. To give a full and accurate narrative of the great events happening during the succeeding eleven days is the professional duty of the future historian, by the light of all the evidence that time, labor, and official reports may produce; while, as the sailor must "spin his yarn," I only assert the privilege to chat away as we do around the bivouac fire by the dim twilight after the battle.

Starting, then, with the advance of Sheridan's cavalry early on the morning of Wednesday, March 29, we soon learn that the army is in general motion. Sheridan's command consisted at this time entirely of cavalry, accompanied by a few light guns. It comprised two wings—one of them the two divisions formerly of the Army of the Potomac, but more recently having arrived with Sheridan from the Army of the Shenandoah, and who, en route, had just been engaged in the famous raid up the valley towards Lynchburg, and in effecting considerable damage to the James river canal, at that time of great service to the enemy. These two divisions were commanded respectively by Brevet Major-General Custer and Brigadier-General Devins, and formed a corps under the command of Brevet Major-General Merritt. The other wing comprised the one division more recently with the Army of the Potomac, but now detached, and commanded by Major-General Crook.

General Devins's division was known as the First division, and was composed of three brigades, under Colonel Stag, Colonel Fitzhugh, and General Gibbs. General Custer's was the Third division, his brigade commanders being Colonels Pennington, Wells, and Capehart. Major-General Crook's command was known as the Second division—more familiarly, in the Army of the Potomac, as "Gregg's old division"—and comprised the brigades of General Davies, Brevet Brigadier-Generals Irwin, Gregg,* and Smith.

As soon as Sheridan had encamped with these troops on the 27th, between the Norfolk & Weldon and Norfolk & Petersburg railroads, and in rear of the Army of the Potomac, a column of the Army of the James, under Major-General Ord, and comprising troops selected from the Twenty-fourth corps, under Major-General Gibbon, and from the Twenty-fifth (colored), under General Birney, passed through the camps, en route to the lines of the Second and Fifth corps, which they relieved on the morning of the 29th.

Thus, as the cavalry column moved that morning towards Ream's station, there were also moving from their old quarters the Second and Fifth corps, both in a south-westerly direction. The Second crossed Hatcher's run by the Vaughn road, and the Fifth lower down the stream. Thus the grand advance which was destined to decide the fate of the rebellion had fairly begun. Every foot of country over which the Army then trod will become historical. Unknown, uninviting places—many of them baptized in blood—will receive a name to be chronicled as a shrine for future patriot pilgrims. Know, then, that the first of these localities reached by Sheridan's column was Ream's station, and as you sit by the roadside while the troopers are passing the old fortifications of this field of sanguinary strife you may hear each officer and soldier talking with earnest gesture to his comrade: "There is where our regiment was," says one; "Here is the place where the 'rebs' broke through," says another. "Don't you remember those woods? How thick the 'Johnnies' were in there!" exclaims a third. "Yes," says a fourth; "and here is where Hancock's headquarters were for a while." "I tell you," added the enthusiastic cavalier, after a moment's contemplation, "the 'rebs' played the devil with the 'foot-pads' that day. If it had not been for our dismounted cavalry, they'd all been 'gobbled,' and many other such scraps of converse would drop from the ranks as one espied a familiar landmark.

It is so natural for a horseman to entertain a high ap-

preciation of his own importance when alongside of a pedestrian that cavalymen often feign a want of respect for the slow and steady infantry soldier.

By nine o'clock in the morning the head of the column had reached Rowanty creek, a stream formed by the junction of the famous Hatcher's run and Gravelly run at a crossing known as Malone's bridge. Like many other instances of American nomenclature, the name failed to describe the place, there being no bridge. Having been a picket post of the enemy for a long time, the bridge has been destroyed, and we must halt to rebuild it. The stream was about fifty feet wide, with a bottomless bottom, and the soil on its banks of the same character. The pontoon train was ordered up, and in the course of three or four hours, by the assistance of the piers of the old bridge and the excellent oak timber which the woods afforded, a substantial reconstruction was put up.

It was here that, during the previous advance of the Army to Hatcher's run, in February ('65), that an interesting skirmish occurred between the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry and the Thirteenth Virginia (rebels) who were picketing this locality at the time, and in which the latter were charged and routed, losing many prisoners before they could destroy the bridge. This may partially explain why on this occasion the enemy offered no opposition.

The column now moved towards Dinwiddie Court-house, its head reaching there during the afternoon, without further incident than the dispersion of a party of the Sixteenth North Carolina who were attempting to barricade the roads leading to the village. By dark it was learned that Warner's (Fifth) corps had crossed the run, and was within communicating distance a few miles back on the highway known as the Vaughn road. Musketry firing had been heard from that direction during the afternoon, and it now proved to have been quite a severe engagement between a division of the Fifth corps and Bushrod's and Johnson's of Anderson's corps. At almost any other time this might have been considered a battle; it certainly was a severe contest, and like so many of those Virginian combats fought in the woods with musketry only; yet, while the losses approximated five hundred on each side, it was comparatively resultless. The enemy withdrew at its conclusion, believing us too strong for further aggression.

The roads the cavalry had been travelling were very bad. Custer's division, which was in the rear guarding the ammunition and medical trains, had scarcely made a quarter day's march; but, with well advanced lines, Sheridan, with Crook and Devins, halted at Dinwiddie.

Dinwiddie Court-house is a small village, about thirteen miles from Petersburg, and before the war, of about two hundred inhabitants; and, although the county seat, it seemed to have contained when in its prime not over half a dozen dwellings. Most of them were now deserted; all looked very uncomfortable and dilapidated, the most inviting one being a roomy, large frame building, of country tavern appearance, with a long portico in front, adapted to the use of three-legged chairs and tobacco-spitting loungers. Conveniently situated, close to the roadside, it commands, in a most appropriate connection, an excellent view of the court-house and jail opposite. These latter edifices were once, *pro forma*, the chief sources of attraction to the town; but a good-sized room off the porch, with an elongated counter, now empty, very much resembled a "bar," and suggested that the neighboring "planters"—as every simple farmer south is aristocratically termed—might find in front thereof exciting and congenial employment. The court-house betokened a more modern appearance than the specimens of rural architecture surrounding it, and was built of red brick, freshly painted. The roof, as though tottering under the unusual burden of new repairs and improvements thereupon, was bolstered up by immense timbers supporting its eaves. The court-room, in the upper story, formed a most excellent public dormitory, and the various legal and county offices, on the first floor, gave employment to many a wandering soldier. The floors were irreverently strewn with abstracts of title, venerable mortgages, copies of deeds, and other such interesting matter as appertains to a county clerk's office. This being one of the oldest counties in Virginia, many of the documents were yellow with age, some bearing date as far back as the time of Governor Dinwiddie, and, for aught I know, furnishing golden opportunities to the American antiquarian. More readable trash was, however, discovered in the post-office adjoining, where several rebel mails were ransacked, and, in the absence of the wagons which were to have brought us some supper, served as our only repast for the night.

Close by the court-house stood a neat little frame church, prettily trimmed inside with evergreen and with neat appointments. Respected by the soldiers, the church though much occupied as a convenient shelter from the storm, was more fortunate than its neighboring buildings, and escaped serious injury.

Adjoining stood a gloomy and desolate iron-barred stone jail, enclosed by an high, substantial fence, and presenting as uninviting and forbidding an abode for criminals, or even for negroes, as the "chivalry" could desire.

Near to the court-house were also long sheds and stalls for hundreds of horses; and it did not take a very great stretch of imagination to picture to oneself the groups which in former times might arrive here during "court week" to kill time, to patronize the tavern, to talk "State's rights," perhaps to fight sham duels, and to trade in horse-flesh and man-flesh.

Now all was deserted. A dilapidated white woman or some faithful black might here and there be found representing a homestead, and beseeching officers to afford them a "guard." The public house was partially occupied by a few poor white people, refugees from some other locality; but, with these exceptions, there were few inhabitants in the town.

The place had once before been visited by the Union troops during the movements of the Army of the Potomac, preceding the battle of Hatcher's run, in February,

1865. The Boydton plank-road—so called probably out of respect to the very ancient period when the road was of plank, of which fact abundant evidence, most annoying to travellers, yet remains—runs through Dinwiddie Court-house, and until quite recently had afforded the enemy one of his most useful roads of communication.

Sheridan planted his headquarters flag in front of the venerable tavern, and with himself and staff thus, as a matter of course, "put up" at the best hotel in the town.

The next day (Thursday, the 30th), was one of those gloomy and stormy days that in Virginia often have interfered seriously with our military prospects—one of those days which make campaigners cross and anxious. While but little actual progress was made in the operations of the Army, prodigies of labor were performed. The artillery, ammunition, and supply trains were almost immovable, and every corps on the march must build its corduroy road. General Custer was performing this duty for the cavalry; while Merritt's other division, under Devins, was, early in the morning, started in the advance on the road from Dinwiddie towards Ford's station on the Southside railroad. They had not gone far, however, before the enemy's cavalry were encountered, and a running fight took place, which resulted in finding the enemy's infantry well posted at Five Forks. Our cavalry was then, in turn, repulsed, but not without serious casualties among officers and men, principally of the Regular brigade.

During the day a portion of the Twenty-fourth corps had completed the line of the main army between the right of the Second corps and the left of the Sixth; so that, by night, without any serious fighting, and only some slight skirmishing, Grant's army had taken up a continuous line of battle extending from the James river on the right to a point towards the left on the White Oak road, within four or five miles of Five Forks. His troops were disposed in the order of the Ninth corps on the extreme right, to the left of which rested the Sixth, then the troops of the Army of the James, under General Ord, then the Second and Fifth corps. On the north bank of the James the troops were principally colored, and, under the command of Major-General Weitzel, occupied the old lines already established. The cavalry, under Sheridan remained holding the extreme left and rear at Dinwiddie Court-house, and made demonstrations on the roads leading to the Southside railroad, thus occupying the attention of the strong force of the enemy now known to be posted on the road from the court-house to Ford's station, and at a point where it is crossed by the White Oak road, running to Petersburg. Other smaller roads also intersect here, and from their number the locality has been popularly designated Five Forks.

The remarkable position of Grant's immense army challenges comparison. A continuous line of battle more than twenty miles long is an anomaly in war. But if the troops north of the James be included in this estimation, eight miles more may be added. The night was dark and stormy. Every soldier slept on his arms, with the soft, wet ground for his couch, ready at a moment's warning to spring to the deadly conflict which each one expected at daylight.

Meanwhile, in the rear of this extended host, the mules floundered, teamsters swore, the wagons upset, the vigorous pioneers swung their axes, the woods echoed with the heavy thunder of falling trees, and the foundation of the roads, which seemed to have seceded from beneath our feet, began to be secured on the timber of the forest. Thus only could the small trains which had been ordered to move with the troops be brought near enough to the new lines now assumed to render their supplies available and to be safe from a dash of the enemy's cavalry.

A quiet, disagreeable, stormy day, of which little would be said in the reports, and in whose history we can record nothing brilliant, the second day of this wonderful campaign was passed none the less laborious and fruitful.

(To be continued.)

FIVE thousand copies each of parts first and second, volume I, of the Surgeon-General's Medical and Surgical History of the War, each part profusely illustrated with wood cuts and chromo-lithographs, have been printed and bound at the Government printing office.

THE *Borsenzeitung* points out in reference to some statistics published in the last number of the *Militär Wochenblatt*, that the number of men and horses lost by the German artillery in the late war is unprecedented in military history. At Gravelotte, out of 4 officers, 151 men, and 126 horses which formed the two batteries of the Ninth regiment of field artillery, 3 officers, 36 men and 102 horses were killed and wounded; four other batteries lost 3 officers, 45 men, and 49 horses; and a Hessian horse-battery 2 officers, 30 men, and 72 horses. At Thionville the second battery of the Third regiment of field artillery lost 5 officers (one supernumerary to the establishment), 47 men, and 49 horses. Indeed it frequently happened that the German artillery lost while in action one-third of its officers and men and two-thirds of its horses. The losses in guns, on the other hand, were unprecedentedly small. The number of German guns used at Gravelotte was 615, at Thionville 232, at Worth 231, and at Sedan 599; yet the total number of guns lost in the whole campaign was only six—two at Gravelotte, one at Beaune-la-Rolande, one at Etrepagny, and two at Coulmiers.

THE federal government of Switzerland has issued instructions to the various cantons, for the introduction of repeating rifles in the Eidgenössische army, and accordingly all battalions and half-battalions of the regular army will be supplied with them during 1873; the entire reserve by at least 1874, and such of the landwehr as are not already armed with breech-loaders, will immediately exchange their old pieces for them.

* This was not the General Gregg formerly in command of this division, whose name was David McGregor Gregg, and who was Brevet Major-General of Volunteers and a captain in the Regular Army. He resigned from the Army in January, 1863.

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THE Washington despatches of the New York Herald say: "General Babcock is very generally condoled with on General Porter's retirement from the White House to be superintendent of the Pullman Palace-Car Company in New York. Generals Porter and Babcock are lineal descendants of Damon and Pythias, it would seem, if the capacity for strong friendship can be transmitted. These gentlemen were at West Point at the same time, and this friendship then began, to be renewed, after an interval of two years, at the beginning of the war, and now for twelve years they have served together."

IN Bavaria a school is about to be opened for non-commissioned officers, the cadets of which are subject to the articles of war and the military laws governing all soldiers in the army, and must be at least seventeen years of age. The object is to supply efficient non-commissioned officers for the Bavarian army.

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THE labors of the United States Exploring Expedition, under Lieutenant LYNCH, which descended the Jordan in 1848, has identified our Navy with the progress of exploration in Palestine; and now our Army is to have an opportunity for distinction in the same field. Second Lieutenant EDGAR Z. STEEVER, a young officer of the Third Cavalry who was graduated from the Military Academy last year, has been granted leave of absence to take charge of an exploring expedition which is to be sent out under the auspices of the "American Palestine Exploration Society," recently organized after the pattern of the English "Palestine Exploration Fund," but entirely independent of it. The president of the society is a distinguished divine of the Presbyterian denomination, Prof. ROSWELL D. HITCHCOCK, D.D., and its list of officers and the advisory committee of fifty-two members includes the names of many distinguished leaders in the various Protestant sects, as well as those of men like FRED. E. CHURCH, JOHN TAYLOR JOHNSTON, Judge HOOPER, C. VAN VORST, WILLIAM FAXON, Hon. SMITH ELY, and others, who are better known for their connection with art, commerce, the learned professions, and public affairs. From the circular of the society we learn that the expedition will be absent several years.

Mr. J. A. PAINE, lately Professor in Robert College, Constantinople, will accompany Lieutenant STEEVER as naturalist and archaeologist, and Mr. EDWARD A. VAN DYCK, now United States Vice-Consul-General at Beirut, as linguist. Efforts are being made to secure the services of an artist, and others will join the party before they enter the field. The region to be explored, it is added, on the East of the Jordan valley, is unknown and full of interest. It has been courteously reserved to American enterprise by foreign explorers, who are exceedingly interested in that country, and are awaiting what is to be done by us, with great expectations. Americans had the honor of beginning the careful exploration of the region West of the Jordan, and of the Sinaitic Peninsula, over thirty years ago; and it is a rare privilege which is now offered to us, to do for Moab and Bashan, what Dr. ROBINSON did for Judæa, Samaria, and Galilee.

The party is fully furnished with the best instruments for astronomical and topographical survey, and it is the intention to do thorough scientific work, such as no American need be ashamed of. The society appeals for support to the American people, and cites the example of the English "Palestine Exploration Fund" which has liberally supported for several years an expedition engaged in careful topographical and archaeological survey in a region where less of novel interest was to be expected. Mr. J. H. DWIGHT, No. 26 Exchange Place, New York, is the general agent from whom full information in regard to its plans and its necessities may be obtained.

We wish all success to the expedition, and hope that Lieutenant STEEVER will be able to give as good an account of his labors as Lieutenant LYNCH did of the expedition he planned and carried to so successful a conclusion. He is offered an opportunity for distinction and an introduction to the sym-

thies of the religious and the learned world, such as seldom fall to the lot of so young a man.

SOME excitement has been created in Switzerland by the lately published project of a new organization of the Swiss army, after a plan devised by Colonel FEIST, secretary of the Swiss War Department. The project, which is based on the confederate constitution of 1848, endeavors to realize the following important points: (1) Division of the army into Federal troops and a landwehr. (2) The real units of the Federal army to consist of two-thirds active and one-third reserve troops. (3) The entire corps of the Federal army to represent a standard of four and a half per cent. of the Swiss population, of which therefore three per cent. will be active and one and a half per cent. reserve. (4) Time of service in the Federal army to be eleven years. The cadres to attend the instruction (peace) exercises during this whole term; the soldiers only for seven years. After these seven years they enter into the reserve of the Federal army and will be exempt from all active duty with the exception of muster and rifle-practice. (5) To every tactical unit in the Federal army one of equal formation in the landwehr will correspond, with the exception, however, of actives and reserves, since the landwehr, aside from probable regular service, will only be convoked to muster and target practice. (6) Cadres and troops will serve in the landwehr until forty-four years of age. (7) From the tactical units of the Federal army eight territorial army divisions will be formed; the landwehr organization consisting of only brigades. (8) The Bund takes upon itself the instruction of the entire army as well as the costs of artillery material, and the cantons will charge the Bund for costs of equipping the corps, for personal arming, equipment and clothing, for furnishing horses for the artillery and probable money outlays.

DR. BERGERON, a member of the committee appointed last year by the Académie de Médecine, to devise means to prevent the excessive use of alcoholic stimulants in France, in his report traces the origin of the use of spirituous liquors to the French army, asserting that the effects of alcohol already showed themselves in 1859, and were in large measure the cause of the demoralization of the troops in 1870-'71. The learned doctor declares that the increase of drunkenness in the French army cannot be denied, and that the *absinthisme*, so predominant among the officers, introduced by the Algerian troops, has greatly affected the masses; he therefore recommends the military departments to take effective measures to work a reform.

AMONG the really noteworthy military books recently published in Germany, treating of the Franco-Prussian war, none commands so much attention as that of the "Generalstab," ("Der deutsch-französische krieg, 1870-'72. Redigirt von der kriegsgeschichtlichen abtheilung des grossen Generalstab,") of which the first part has been published. This work is edited by Colonel VERDY, though it is generally known that not a line reaches the printer before General MOLTKE himself has given the finishing touch; and we believe that we can attribute to the great strategist the authorship of the very able introduction.

The origin of the war is traced far beyond the difficulty of the HOHENZOLLERN throne candidacy. The ambition of the French people was kept constantly alive by all the means at the command of the press, the church, and the government; and, inflated by unparalleled military successes, they looked with contempt on what they regarded as weak, self-divided Germany at their side. The events of 1866 might well have been looked upon as French defeats, and must have been considered by competent and thoughtful observers as damaging to the omnipotence of France. From that time a war between France and Prussia was only a question of time. To this condition of things, made worse by the constantly threatening state of the internal affairs of France, we are told by this work, may be attributed the origin of the war. War might easily have been avoided if the Spanish throne question had been the only exciting cause. The French ministers would have acted with more caution, if they had not sought the humiliation of Prussia, over

which France might boast. As soon as it became evident (on the afternoon of July 13), that this could not be accomplished, war was decided on. Once resolved upon it was to the interest of both parties that hostilities should be precipitated. France hoped to surprise its opponent by quickness; Prussia was well-informed that France could not appear in the field with numerical superiority before a fixed time. This we may well accept as the true statement of the cause of the war, since it can be refuted neither by the French imperialists and those antagonistic to the German empire, who would attribute the origin of the war to Prussia alone, nor by the French republicans who accuse NAPOLEON of being the sole originator of the conflict.

After the discussion of the origin of the war, we are presented with a clear account of the French army, its plan of operation, its advance, and the state of affairs in the French headquarters, until the preparation for reconnoitring against Saarbrücken. The most of the faults pointed out in this portion of the work, we take it for granted, are known to the readers of the JOURNAL, for they have been exhaustively treated of in all the works on this war by French generals and even by NAPOLEON himself in his discussion of the causes of the surrender of Sedan. They are faults arising not only out of the organization of the army but also out of the imperial administration generally, and for which individuals are answerable only so far as they neglected to abolish them.

Next follows an account of the mobilization, the plan of operations, and the advance of the German troops. The manner in which everything, even the smallest detail, had been foreseen and pre-arranged is really astonishing; the plan of operations even having been worked out as long ago as 1866, by General VON MOLTKE. The account of the transportation of troops is highly interesting and instructive. The number of trains on the single-track roads was raised to twelve, that of the double-track roads to eighteen per day, and so perfect was the organization of this department, that the transportation of an army corps required but three and one-half, at the most five days. With the transportation the strategic movements of the troops are closely connected. Although it was known that the organization of the French army was not yet complete, an attack from the enemy was expected about July 26. That the offensive had been determined on in the French headquarters for this date is attested by French authors, but with the remark that it was delayed because of the imperfect preparations in all parts, especially in the system of transportation. The question whether the French could have taken up the offensive on the 26th or 28th with any prospect of success is not referred to, but from orders issued with a view to such an event, it appears that at that time everything was in readiness for the reception of the French columns. The troops then available were sufficiently strong for a defence, and could have ably held their own, until greater masses should arrive with whom the enemy might be overwhelmed. Already by the 30th this danger was removed, for at that day an order was issued to the Third army corps to assume the offensive. The movements during the latter part of July are briefly mentioned and are followed by a discussion of the events that occurred on sea during the month of July. In conclusion is given the proclamation issued by King WILLIAM, July 31, a chart and correct *ordres de bataille* of both armies.

The work, of which we have above given a brief synopsis, promises to be one of the most valuable contributions to the history of military movements. It is marked by the quality of patient industry and faithful attention to detail which may be called a distinguishing trait of German historians.

THE extinction of the royal line of the Sandwich Islands by the death of the King is directing public attention in this country to the possible acquisition of these islands by the United States. American influence is already so strong there that Hawaii is now hardly more than an outlying province of this country, and with a cable stretched across the Pacific, we might bring it near enough to embody it in our system; and what a claim for mileage the member from Hawaii would have though, to be sure! We have no doubt some enterprising Yankee who

"drove a baggage waggon" during the recent unpleasantness already has his carpet-bag packed and his ticket taken for the Sandwich Islands in view of contingencies. Or there may prove to be a new opening for the enterprising officer who was ruled out of his seat as the representative from Alaska.

SOME of our cotemporaries of the daily press are unnecessarily exercised over the discovery that the increase of the number of Congressional districts from 240 to 292, under the recent reapportionment, will result in a corresponding increase in the number of cadets appointed annually to the Military and the Naval Academy. Each Academy will thus gain forty-nine members, and there will be that number of original vacancies in each institution to be filled next March on the recommendations of Congressmen from the districts having no representatives in the Academies. There need be no anxiety, however, on this account. In the Army certainly there will be vacant places enough for all who graduate from the Academy if Congress will suffer promotion to take its natural course. The annual percentage of loss from the various causes is now in excess of the number who will be graduated, even with this increase. Were it not so, there should be no discontent in this country of free schools because we may chance to have a few young gentlemen well educated in excess of the number actually required for the public service. If civil service reform is to amount to anything, it might not be found out of place to fit young men at the national expense for employment in other departments of the public service than those of the Army and Navy.

The *Tribune* correspondent reports however, the Appropriation Committee do not think it desirable that there should be any increase in the number graduated from the academies. Looking at the increased expense it will devolve upon the Government, and doubting the necessity of enlarging the capacity of either academy, they are disposed to report some legislation limiting the number of cadets and midshipmen so that it shall not exceed the present force, by providing, for example, that appointments to the two Academies from each Congress district should be made once in five years instead of once in four, retaining the present four years' course of study. Another plan suggested is to lengthen the course of study to five years, as has frequently been recommended by Boards of Visitors and the academic authorities. The Committee will have the Secretaries of War and the Navy before them next week, and will obtain their views upon the question before coming to any decision.

Another discovery made in connection with the Naval Appropriation bill is that the cost of maintaining the Marine Corps is largely increased by the law of last session, increasing the pay of private soldiers and non-commissioned officers of the Army. The pay of the Marine Corps is assimilated by law to that of the Army, and when one is raised the other follows without further legislation. The increased amount which must be appropriated for the corps is estimated at \$300,000.

CONGRESS reassembles again next week, after the holiday vacation. This promises to be an unusually dull session, and so far as legislation for the Army and Navy is concerned there is but little likelihood that much will be done. The session will be made as short as possible, and all perplexing problems of legislation turned over to the new Congress, whose wisdom, it is to be hoped, will be found to have increased in due relation to its increase in number. A press despatch from Washington announces that there seems to be "a general desire on the part of Congress to remove the restriction at present existing which prevents promotions and appointments in the Army staff corps."

ONE of our correspondents this week offers some very forcible observations on the subject of "battery recitations," which we commend to the attention of those interested in the improvement of our artillery service. There is undoubtedly a great need of improved text-books in this department of military education, and we insert this communication for the purpose of exciting inquiry as to how the deficiencies to which it calls attention can best be remedied.

THERE was a fine turnout of the officers of the Navy and Marine Corps at Washington, on New Year's day, to pay respect to the President. A few minutes before twelve o'clock they left the Navy Department, and as they proceeded to the Executive Mansion they attracted marked attention by their manly appearance and rich uniforms. With but few exceptions they were all dressed as prescribed by Regulations for State occasions. The following, we think, is a complete list of those who paid their respects to the President: Admiral D. D. Porter, Rear-Admirals L. M. Goldsborough, S. P. Lee, Charles S. Boggs, B. F. Sands, A. L. Case, Charles H. Poor, Commodores J. J. Almy, Wm. Reynolds, Thomas H. Patterson, Daniel Ammen, R. H. Wyman, George B. Balch, Foxhall A. Parker, Captain J. C. Beaumont, Commanders John L. Davis, K. R. Breeso, L. A. Kimberly, George U. Morris, A. W. Weaver, James W. Shirk, A. W. Johnson, B. B. Taylor, Montgomery Seward, Lieutenant-Commanders T. F. Kane, Frederick Rodgers, G. C. Wiltze, George W. Sumner, Frederick Pearson, J. B. Coghlan, F. M. Green, H. H. Gorrings, John Schouler, Lieutenants Isaac Hazlett, Samuel Belden, R. D. Hitchcock, C. C. Todd, B. F. Tilley. The Medical Corps was represented by Surgeon-General James C. Palmer, Medical Director Ninian Pinkney, Surgeons T. J. Turner, A. L. Gihon, and R. C. Dean. The Pay Corps by Paymaster-General E. T. Dunn, Pay Director W. B. Boggs, Pay Inspector Gilbert E. Thornton, and Paymaster A. W. Bacon. The Engineer Corps by Chief Engineer J. W. King and First Assistant Engineers W. L. Nicoll and Sidney L. Smith. The Corps of Mathematics by Professors Wm. Harkness, J. E. Nourse, and John R. Eastman. The officers of the Marine Corps, headed by General Zeilin, were Majors W. B. Slack, A. S. Nicholson, John C. Cash, Captains Jos. F. Baker, Wm. B. Remey, and Geo. F. Reid, First Lieutenants Chas. F. Williams, D. P. Mannix, Second Lieutenants Samuel H. Gibson and Edward McCauley.

MR. F. W. CHRISTERN, New York, has recently published a volume "compiled by Charles B. Norton, brevet major U. S. A., United States Commissioner to Paris Exposition," giving a description of late inventions in this department, including the Gatling gun, and a chapter on cartridges. It is a handsomely printed volume, with cuts illustrating the peculiarities of the leading systems of breech-loading, and is of value as a work of reference. It makes no pretension, however, to independent criticism, and whatever comparison there may be between the several systems is left entirely to the judgment of the reader. The volume closes with a letter from General J. Watts De Peyster, giving a curious history of a breech-loader used during the Revolution, and invented by Patrick Ferguson, junior major of the Seventy-first regiment Highlanders, Second Battalion. An account of this invention appeared in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL some time since. Some of these rifles were used in the battle of King's Mountain October 7, 1770, and some at Oriskany, August 6, 1777, where Ferguson was killed. He was an astonishing marksman, and although his right arm had been disabled, he could take his pistol out of his holster with his left hand, throw it into the air, catch it as it fell, by the stock, and instantly shoot off the head of a small bird sitting within point-blank range.

CAPTAIN E. G. READ died suddenly of heart disease while walking the hall of the Grand Central Hotel in New York city on Saturday, December 21. Captain Read was but thirty-four years of age, yet this sudden disease has closed a life containing enough of adventure to inspire half a dozen romances. He entered the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis in 1855, and graduated in 1860. His first sea duty was on board the *Niagara*, to which he was detailed as midshipman on her voyage to Japan with the Japanese Commission. Returning to the United States in 1861, he resigned his position, and went into secession with his native State, Virginia. His service to the Confederacy was such as to win the commendation of Admiral Buchanan and the older heads of the rebel navy, and he was ultimately sent abroad to take a position in the *Stonewall*, of which historical craft he was lieutenant. Left by the collapse in Europe, he soon returned to this country, and shortly after, the Peruvian and Spanish war being in progress, accepted a position as captain in the navy of the latter power. Detailed to the United States, he purchased and fitted out the *R.R. Cyler*, afterwards the Columbian man-of-war *Rayo*, which he commanded till the close of the war. In 1869, after an interval of two years out of service, he was induced to make another trip to Japan. During this second visit to the East he was offered the chief command and organization of the naval force of the King of Siam—a position which personal considerations unfortunately, however, led him to decline. For the last two years Captain Read had been a resident of New York. He was possessed of very considerable natural ability; and his cultivated mind and kindly demeanor served to retain for him the respect and sympathy of the few who knew him. He was buried at Cypress Hills Cemetery on the 24th ult.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

A REMINISCENCE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: On our onward course through sights and scenes that were familiar years past, and where many hardships, toils, and tribulations were endured, I filtered these obscure verses which can scarcely and very faintly convey the truth. Since our early pilgrimage to Salt Lake and its environs, I have served on the Pacific coast; and even prior to that—but *n'importe*. I do not forget the weary marches and toils that I and others have gone through in the Mormon expedition of 1857 and 1858, under A. Sidney Johnson. Now we glide smoothly past the scenes of our former adventures with snow and famine until I find myself safely and expeditiously transferred from the Occident to the Orient on the road of civilization yeelp the railroad. Previous to this exodus we were in a very damp and watery country, to wit, Alaska and Washington Territories, and which gave birth to this unwonted production.

THE DREAM OF OF THE OLD BEAN CRACKER.

I dreamed of the far-off Orient
In this western land afar,
And I longed to see the rising sun
Break through the watery bar;

But little reck'd I of being hurled
Through space like a falling star,
With a shock I awoke in the eastern world
On the back of the fire-steed's car.

I found I'd passed the prairies broad—
Where erst we plodded and died,
Moving like snails on the western road;
Our shadows the sage-bush hide.

And as we pass old Bridger's fort,
On the wings of the whirlwind's blast,
I thought of the frozen days so short
And the rations that never would last.

For I had eaten mule-meat there,
Embedded in the snow,
And not a grain of salt to spare,
As those who live do know.

But now we fly, and my dream is out,
And the iron road is there,
And I never more will cast a doubt,
Nor think of our pilgrims' care.

For my hair is turning crisp and gray,
And corrugate my brow,
I am going fast, nor can I stay,
Sic transit gloria mundi now.

J. J. B., Second Artillery.

FORT MACON, N. C., December 9, 1872.

BATTERY RECITATIONS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: There seems to be among Artillery officers a very general dislike of that system of instruction known in the Army as "recitations." Even those to whom the instruction of subordinates is entrusted have no faith in the system, and consequently, with perhaps a few exceptions, the duty is slurred over, does no good, and becomes in a short time a bore to instructor and instructed. I propose to inquire why this system meets with such general disfavor, and what would remedy the evil.

Before entering on the subject it is proper for me to say, that from observation I am convinced that this almost universal apathy does not arise from any feeling of self-sufficiency or disregard for professional acquirements on the part of artillery officers. On the contrary, many, if not all, are actuated by a laudable desire to acquire useful professional knowledge. Almost every one has some theory of his own as to the best system of artillery, the proper kind of carriage and projectile, or the best method of loading and manoeuvring the gun. These are questions in which every artillery officer takes a lively interest, and the bare mention of such subjects in any company of officers will at once incite a discussion, animated if not able in its character. This at once disproves the hypothesis that lack of interest in professional subjects is the cause of the apathy complained of.

But to proceed. What are recitations as at present conducted in many and probably most of the batteries in the service?

The authorized text-books are: Field and Heavy Artillery Tactics, Gibbon's Artillerist's Manual, and Roberts' Hand-Book of Artillery. In some batteries the Ordnance Manual, and Benton's Ordnance and Gunnery are used as text-books for officers; but those first mentioned are the only authorized books furnished to batteries by the War Department for the instruction of officers and enlisted men.

The tactics, as the various manuals and drills are erroneously called, should, of course, be as household words to every officer or soldier invested or liable to be invested with the command of men. Every commanding officer, therefore, has a right to demand a thorough knowledge of them on the part of his subordinates. Hence the assumed necessity for that great bugbear "battery recitations."

In compliance with the orders on the subject, the following programme is followed more or less closely by battery commanders: A certain number of pages is prescribed as a lesson; ample time is allowed for study; then at the appointed hour the lesson is recited, school-

boy style, and the reciter scored up or scored down, according as he has adhered to or departed from the language of the text. The whole operation is as intellectual as committing to memory a certain number of pages of last year's almanac, and reciting them to "Old Probabilities," or some other clerk of the weather who would pledge himself to judge by the letter and not by the spirit.

Tactics can never be learned in this way. As well might a man aspire to become an expert signal officer by reading and reciting the code. In both cases the eye more than the memory needs training. Whether he be recruit or flagman, the instructor must be able to put himself in his place. He must avoid associating the various positions of the soldier with certain stereotyped clauses or sentences stored away in his memory. The position should at once refer itself to his eye, if correct, as a thing of beauty and grace; if incorrect, as a horrid, ungainly, constrained, and contorted caricature. In correcting the position of the soldier, should it be erroneous, the instructor will meet with greater success in proportion to his ability to illustrate and explain it in language within the man's comprehension. Can there be a more pitiable object than an artillery recruit trembling at the threatening attitude of his instructor, who, in stentorian tones, has for the third time commanded him to "break off with the right foot." The precise nature of what he is commanded to do is beyond his comprehension. He can see nothing but the head of his instructor that he has the slightest inclination to break, or that in his opinion deserves to be broken. He probably sulks, as discipline denies him the privilege of asking for an explanation, and his instructor pronounces him stupid.

Passing from the field to the heavy artillery tactics, the absurdity of committing to memory the mass of information therein contained becomes more apparent. The system of artillery now in use is entirely different from that treated of in the text. Guns, carriages, projectiles, and implements are all changed. Even mortars, which since the invention of cannon have held their own pretty well against all comers, have at last succumbed to modern innovation. The mortar is changed almost beyond recognition. Its chamber has disappeared; the axis of its trunnions has advanced to its centre of gravity; the quoin, as an elevating apparatus, has been superseded; the bed has changed its shape, material, and dimensions; and the very platform on which it rests has been compelled to enlarge itself to meet the new order of things.

We have heard of boards on heavy guns, and boards on tactics, and great expectations have been indulged as to the result of their labors, but the mountain has not even brought forth a mouse as yet. At the Artillery School, it is true, some attempt has been made to provide a system of drill for the new guns and carriages, but these are published without authority of the War Department, and do not circulate beyond the School itself. Heavy artillery is consequently in a chaotic state as far as drill is concerned, every commanding officer being at liberty to devise a drill for his own post.

I may not be justified in assuming that because the heavy artillery tactics are out of date they should not be studied by artillery officers, because they contain many general principles applicable to all guns and to all kinds of carriages, but I unhesitatingly pronounce it time thrown away to study and recite the various drills laid down in that text-book.

"Gibbon's Artillerist's Manual" is a text-book of a very different order. It presents to the student a mass of useful and varied information, and will repay a careful study. But the progress of artillery invention within the last ten or fifteen years has been so enormous as to leave the author far behind. The text of this book would compel an officer to look on the Napoleon gun as an experiment that would probably be adopted, and would supersede all other field guns; and that all attempts to apply the rifle principle to cannon have as yet been without success. Now although it is interesting to know what were the opinions of distinguished artillerymen of that day on these questions, I cannot see that they are a profitable subject for recitations.

Roberts' Hand Book, until it is revised and adapted to the present system, is worthless as a text-book, and even the last edition of Benton's Ordnance and Gunnery is behind the age.

Can it be wondered at, then, that officers and men lack enthusiasm when they are required to study exploded ideas, long since superseded, and commit to memory systems of drill wholly inapplicable to the ordnance now in use.

Passing to the second point of inquiry, namely: What will remedy this evil? How can the interest which we have shown exists among artillery officers on professional subjects be turned to advantage by those entrusted with the professional training of junior officers? We know from experience that this interest flags under the present system, and we have attempted to show that this is due principally to the superannuated character of the text-books provided.

Of course it is impossible to provide new and revised editions of these works with sufficient rapidity to keep within sight of the improvements continually being made. Nevertheless, if we fail to keep our officers posted concerning every improvement adopted or under consideration; if we carefully conceal from them the arguments for or against any professional question that may arise; if we dwarf their intellects by depriving them of the ability to discuss such subjects in the light of facts determined by scientific investigation and experiment; if we compel them to swallow the doses prescribed by the Ordnance Department without knowing the nature of the medicine or its probable effects—then we must accept the consequences. And what will these consequences be? To the officers they will undoubtedly be a degrading inferiority to officers of foreign governments in professional attainments, and to the country probable ruin.

It was expected that the Artillery School would do much to dispel the dark cloud that hangs over the ar-

tillery, and it has done a great deal. But the instruction there is only elementary. It ends where it should begin. No doubt it is making its mark, and its effects will be apparent to all in the course of time. But we want something *now* to organize and direct thought among artillery officers. We need an institution that will be the soul of the artillery, if I may be permitted the illustration. Something not only to direct the thoughts, but to consolidate, classify, discuss, and publish the intellectual labors of the corps; something to disseminate information. We want to know all about our own guns; we want to know all about the guns we will have to meet in case of a foreign war; we want to know wherein ours are superior, and why; what, if any, foreign guns are superior to ours, and why. It is as important for us to know our enemy's system, and his ability to do us mischief, and the circumstances which would give him an advantage over us, as it is for us to know our own table of ranges, which is about all we are allowed to learn.

To meet all these desirable ends, I would propose to enlarge the scope of the Artillery School. Let a class be organized to include all artillery officers wherever they may be stationed. Assemble the best talent of the corps as staff of the school, and let them be sufficiently numerous to do the work required. Set up that most powerful engine for good, the printing-press, and let it be the focus of thought and the centre of information for the whole body of artillery officers. Publish, say quarterly, an artillerist's magazine, which shall furnish food for thought, and reflect the best ideas of the corps. Who can doubt that in this way great things would be accomplished; that interest in professional subjects would revive; that valuable information would be generally diffused; that free discussion would lead to correct conclusions on doubtful points; and that in all probability authority would be more needed to restrain than to stimulate enthusiasm?

Should it be feared that but few contributors would voluntarily enter the arena of discussion, and that junior officers would be backward in putting their ideas in writing, let it be made the duty of every subaltern to submit, in the form of an essay, his discussion of the subject proposed to his post commander, who should be required to select one from the number thus submitted, to be forwarded to the Artillery School. There the selected essays would be reviewed by the staff, and selections made for publication or criticism.

In this way the best ideas on the living questions of the day would become generally known, and much useful instruction would be imparted to every officer of the Corps.

Could Congress be prevailed upon to appropriate the small sum required to set such machinery in motion?

FORT H—, December 19, 1872. C.

INDIAN FIGHTS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: With a view to collecting dates from which to frame our future history of the Indian wars, why would it not be proper for Congress to pass an act, requiring the employment at each regimental headquarters of a faithful chronicler of events, such as your correspondent, writing from Fort Concho, the headquarters of the Fourth Cavalry. In your issue of Dec. 21st, this modest scribe sets forth in no unmeaning terms, that in his opinion "The Fourth Cavalry can claim the honor of having had the biggest and most successful Indian fight of any cavalry stationed in Texas." If this boast relates only to the present, it can apply to no other cavalry regiment than the Ninth, as the Fourth and Ninth are the only two cavalry regiments now serving in Texas. As the Ninth is not so fortunate as the Fourth in possessing a ready writer to record its exploits, the public are not able to judge between the two.

The representative of the Fourth Cavalry announces in the opening of his letter that he takes the "liberty of correcting all of said statements," referring to published accounts of the battle (?) between the Fourth Cavalry and the Comanches. Assuming this responsible position, he and his friends must not deem it strange if asked to explain why, for the sake of accuracy, can they not state whether the number of Indians killed, if not twenty-three as reported officially, is "seventy," or "eighty," or any other fixed number. The story that "some of our officers saw six or seven (which was it six, or seven?) dead Indians lying behind a stump" is, to make use of a slang phrase, "a little thin." Upon a par with it is that other statement to the effect that "a great many Comanches were killed and thrown into a large water-hole near where they fell." And still another, "a good many who were mortally wounded crawled off the field and afterward died." Now, what was the "bloody Fourth" doing all this time while these mortally wounded Indians were crawling off to die? Magnanimity probably; did not like to strike a man while he was down. The Fort Concho correspondent says nothing about the animals, horses, and mules, captured from the Indians on or about this time, probably for the reason that it would be embarrassing to explain how the Indians, by one of their favorite stampedes, recovered not only their own but more besides; or was this upon some other battle-field?

He also omits to state how many of the twenty-three Indians reported killed were warriors. Ordinarily a correspondent relating the events with which his command is or has been connected, is granted unquestioned, no little liberty in filling up the details and adding up the results had, but when he appears as the reviser of all other writers, he must expect to have the accuracy of his own statements put to the test; and when he announces that the —th regiment is the regiment of the service, he has a perfect right to his opinion, but must not be surprised if here and there, in or out of the Army, a benighted individual is found who ignorant of the wonderful exploits of the —th regiment, holds to the opinion that some other regiment perhaps, in all things except its correspondent, is at least as deserving as the —th.

In writing an account of a military exploit there is

nothing like brevity and precision. Let the exact numbers when attainable be given. If the Fort Concho correspondent would improve his style, he should not neglect precision, and with a desire to aid him in his career I would ask his careful attention to the following brief extract of an account of a battle, not with the Comanches, nor in Texas, differing from his description, however, in one or two points, but particularly in the positive statements of numbers:

"There be four of us here have ta'en a thousand pound this morning. . . . Where is it? taken from us it is; a hundred upon poor four of us. I am a rogue if I were not at half-sword with a dozen of them two hours together. I have 'scaped by miracle. I am eight times thrust through the doublet, four through the hose; my sword hacks like a hand-saw, *ecce signum*. I never dealt better since I was a man; all would not do. A plague of all cowards! Let them speak. If they speak more or less than truth they are villains, and the sons of darkness." "All! I know not what ye call all, but if I fought not with fifty of them I am a bunch of radishes. If there were not two or three and fifty upon poor old Jack, then I am no two-legged creature. . . . I have peppered two of them, two, I am sure I have paid; two rogues in buckram suits. I tell thee what, Hal, if I tell thee a lie, spit in my face. Call me a horse. Thou knowest my old ward, here I lay and thus I bore my point. Four rogues in buckram let drive at me. . . . These four came all afront, and mainly thrust at me. I made me no more ado, but took all their seven points in my target thus: . . . These nine in buckram that I told thee of, their points being broken, began to give me ground, but I followed me close, came in foot and hand, and with a thought seven of the eleven I paid, but as the devil would have it three misbegotten knaves in Kendal green came at my back and let drive at me, for it was so dark, Hal, that thou couldst not see thy hand."

Your Fort Concho correspondent may not detect the difference between his style and that of the above. True, the difference is not great except in precision where numbers are concerned. It would be observed that instead of saying "seventy or eighty," or nine or eleven, the writer of this extract fixes the number with a positiveness which tells his own story. No men in buckram were seen to crawl off "mortally wounded, and *afterward died*," nor did any body see six or seven or any other number in Kendal green lying dead behind a stump. When the gallant Fourth next encounters the wily Comanche, may it be upon a battle field free from large stumps to be used by dead Indians to conceal their bodies, and may no large water-holes be convenient to engulf half a tribe or more, and may the cunning Comanche not succeed in recapturing his ponies and stampeding those of their brave opponents, then perhaps the —th may boast of having had the biggest and most successful Indian fight of any cavalry stationed in Texas.

SADOWA.

CAVALRY TACTICS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: It is understood that at last an officer of cavalry has been found with sufficient audacity to say that the cavalry tactics of 1841, which is now used as a text-book in that arm of the service, is entirely inadequate to meet the wants of either officers or enlisted men; as a text-book it is a bundle of rubbish, as a book of reference it is utterly and entirely useless as such to cavalry of the present day. It must be admitted we have made some advance since the Tactics of 1841 was published, during a period of twenty years' service on the Plains and a war of five years' duration; we certainly have not been at a stand-still or unemployed during this time. If the deeds of the cavalry have not been flourished abroad throughout the land it is due perhaps to the aversion of the cavalry officer, when out of the saddle, to blow his own trumpet. Do we know what we want in the matter of cavalry tactics? Can that want be supplied, and how?

The officers of cavalry of the present date are an intelligent set of gentlemen, whose experience on the Plains or during the war has made them a practical, sensible, self-reliant body of men, who are thoroughly cognizant of the wants of their men and horses, and who are zealous to supply these requirements.

The want and deficiency in the subject-matter of tactics can be very easily and simply supplied by furnishing to the cavalry a system which will teach a trooper to ride a horse in the shortest practicable space of time, and which will teach him as little as may be required of the simplest kind of tactics, to enable him to manoeuvre properly in a set of fours of a troop of horse.

For the officers and non-commissioned officers we want our tactics in a small single volume, with illustrations that will not be torn by every wind, set opposite the pages of text which relate to the subject to be explained; we want a book which will call things by their right names, and which will gather matter pertaining to a single subject under its appropriate head, and which will not oblige us, as at present, to look over the Army Regulations, with the innumerable orders of interpretation and three volumes of tactics, to find out so simple a thing as a manual of arms.

What features should this book contain?

Answer: 1. The basis of this system should be Single Rank Formation. 2. The unit of a Regiment should be a Troop—i. e., a company. 3. The unit of a Troop is a Set of Fours, which arrangement and organization will entirely do away with the necessity of instruction in the School of the Platoon and the School of the Squadron. 4. A full set of instructions for the Formation of a Regiment and Troop in Line of Battle; for Guard Mount, Dress Parade, Review, Inspections, and Escorts, which will tell every man where he and his horse should be and what they should do. 5. The tactics *per se* should be as simple and short as possible, only containing the elements of instruction for a trooper in the School of the Trooper, the School of the Troop, both mounted and dismounted, and the Evolutions of a Regiment. 6. The subject of Equitation or the Art of Riding

ing a Horse should be gathered together by itself and taught as such, and separated from tactics as far as practicable. 7. Manuals of Arms for Sharpe's carbines, Colt's new revolver, and for the sabre should be rewritten, so as to comprehend everything pertaining to these several arms under its own head. 8. The Trumpet Calls should be re-arranged, and made shorter and more decisive and characteristic, and the trumpet must be depended upon more than the voice for the execution of all movements at rapid gaits of bodies whose strength is greater than a single troop. 9. A Simple System for Skirmishing and for Fighting on Foot.

Perhaps there are a few of our older cavalry officers who are not yet prepared to give up the two-rank formation. To these I would respectfully say that there can be no question in regard to the advantages derived for purpose of instruction by the single rank formation, both individually and collectively.

If, however, it should be maintained that more solidity and a greater moral cohesion is obtained in a charge by the two-rank formation, I would simply observe that if it is desired, provision has been made for placing two subdivisions in just as close contact, one behind the other, only we call the rear rank by a different name, and give the command of it to officers. The present two-rank formation makes no provision for the rear rank in a charge, and it can only get to work by forcing itself through the front rank, or by going around its flanks, neither of which movements is authorized.

In the single-rank formation all movements are made with greater precision and more rapidly. Good soldiers dislike to be placed in the rear rank. The faults of bad soldiers cannot be so easily detected or corrected in a rear rank. Every man has an equal chance in the charge and attack, and lastly the effective strength of the cavalry and of the service may be actually doubled by adopting the single-rank formation.

We beg the authority to which we should look for assistance to relieve an intelligent body of men from being hampered and disgraced by having imposed upon them a set of tactics of 1841, which is as useless as it is effete, either as a text-book or a standard of reference.

When the cavalry is furnished with its appropriate and handsome uniform would seem to be a proper time to brush away an incompetent and inadequate system of tactics, and to replace it by one which contains common sense and utility, and which can be taught and used by both officers and enlisted men.

UHLAN.

THE HORSE DISEASE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: You did me the honor to publish an article of mine on the horse epidemic, December 26, 1868. Allow me now again to write to you on the same topic. The disease prevailing among the horses in the States, called epizootic, does not seem unknown to me, and I think that I treated it not the same then a very similar disease, about four and a half years ago. In reading the article in your esteemed paper of November 2, 1872, concerning this disease, I found it very similar in its leading traits to an official report of mine rendered in February, 1868. The following is an extract from that report:

"FORT MASON, TEXAS, Feb. 15, 1868.

"I respectfully report for the information of the regimental commander that the disease prevailing among the horses of the detachment Fourth Cavalry, at this post, and which rages through Mason county, is from evidence adduced and my personal knowledge by diagnosis, diphtheria (*tracheitis exsudatoria*). Owing to the fact that this sickness very seldom prevails among horses, it is not recognized by persons unacquainted with it, being often taken for glanders (*ozoena*) on account of the running of matter from the mouth and nostrils.

"Its symptoms are as follows:

"1st. Costiveness, or hard and dry dung. 2d. Small ulcers in the throat. 3d. The ulcerations grow bigger, and exude an offensive matter, having its passage through the mouth and nostrils. 4th. Swelling ensues in the throat. 5th. Symptoms of choking, want of breath, and last death. All these symptoms appeared here, and, as before said, owing to this disease being unknown to the men, they could not do anything to prevent or cure it.

"The treatment of it is as follows:

"Purging, gargle of vinegar and alum, cataplasm round the throat, steaming the animal under any circumstances, in very well closed stables. For food and drink, bran mash and flour gruel, with nitre potassia until the swelling disappears, and the animal shows signs of better appetite, breathing more freely, and is in a more healthy condition. If found out too late, unfortunately, every effort will be useless.

"The reasons for the appearance of this disease are climatic causes, and a liability of the animal, and only through uncleanness is it contagious. Climatic causes are, for instance, very severe northeast winds, and generally produce, if the animal is not in perfect health, throat and bronchial diseases; too dry and heating food, as corn and hay alone, with no change of diet, and little exercise, will also increase the liability of the animals to the disease. Sometimes the disease is epidemic to a certain part of the country (epizootic), the proof of which is that this disease prevails not at this post alone, but around the entire vicinity, and I suppose that in this case the climatic and telluric influences are more the cause of the prevailing disease than the liability of the horse.

"The above treatment I would improve upon according to circumstances, if present, but if followed as a general rule, will be found to answer in most cases."

The disease which prevailed in January and February, 1868, in the vicinity of and at Fort Mason, Texas, seems to me to be the same as that now prevailing in the States, called epizootic, and in comparing the treatment as per my report, with that recommended in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL of date November 2, 1872, I find they generally agree, as in steaming, cleanliness, exer-

cise, cataplasm around the throat, change of diet, as bran mash with nitre, and in using vinegar. Also in stating that if the case be taken in time the treatment will be successful.

Owing to the limited variety of medicines furnished by the United States Government, I was compelled to practice as above, though other remedies are known to me.

I hope that you will be able to find room to insert this article in your valuable paper, as it may invite attention, and maybe cause a discussion through the columns of your paper for general information.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

PAUL NITSCHKE,

Veterinary Surgeon Fourth Cavalry,

FORT RICHARDSON, TEXAS, Dec. 13, 1872.

AN OPEN LETTER.

MY DEAR CAPTAIN LEEFE: You are right; but don't you think you are rash?

At the cattle-shows they give their graded ribbon to some, and make "honorable mention" of others. They never order a man to buy and cause his ox to wear a blue ribbon. Our Congress is wiser in these matters. It encourages the cunning workers in gold by making us buy our honors from them; as soon as donned we are to doff them; and the "honorable mention" is to be found—in the archives of Congress.

These patents, or brevets, I had thought, were brought down to their mathematical axis in the way of economy to Government; but no. Their haters have gone a step further—have practically expunged the recognition of services of which the badges were the exponent.

It was a terrible fight, that over the expunging of the resolutions of condemnation of President Jackson. The expungers were successful. The best of the joke now is that they expunged nothing. History cannot be effaced by drawing a black line around its record, and a new body of judges writing *expunged* over it in never so red letters. I used to call my old friends by their complimentary titles, and it is wonderful how natural it comes to continue it; that part, laws cannot break down—they cannot reach our civic friends.

I do not ask any title; but I do wish to utilize my "recognition of services," or "honorable mention," as I did not gain a first prize in the way of promotion.

If Congress does not like to give me a badge that may be confounded with real rank let it devise some other; plenty of good schemes have been proposed. And, if it wishes to do it in a dignified and worthy manner, let it bear the expense, as it would of a medal, and confer it in a military way. If the country cannot bear the expense in its present impoverished condition, let the Congress call on the officers concerned to contribute; with this money let the Congress buy the badge, and, by the proper presentation, confirm their act of "honorable mention."

I am obliged to the people of my country for their "recognition of [my] services;" but they cannot claim any great credit for their way of doing it. Probably I would come nearer the truth in saying that I don't thank them at all. Ever since their "recognizing" they have been *derogating*, telling me one year after another, in one way or another, that they are taking it all back, wished they hadn't acted so hastily, and so forth. In plucking away our feathers (which we have bought from our tailors out of our stipend), not a word of regret has escaped them, not a breath has been put articulate, to relieve the twinge. Why don't they manfully *expunge*, and say, "We once thanked you, now we don't; remove the proofs that we ever thanked you?"

But, to return to my first question, how are you brave enough to petition Congress for a badge of uniform? I thought that after the law, as laid down by "De Trobriand" and "An Old Soldier," no common expression of opinion would ever escape from the Army to the law executing power, much less to the law-making power. There are so few of us able to lay down the law of amenities *ex cathedra* that it is refreshing to find still standing such pillars of the service. It is currently reported that the honorable Secretary thanks them—in his dreams. Van Voast sent me De Trobriand's letter with this comment, "Don't you remember the 'copy' we wrote at school—'Many men of many minds'?" When I got the letter I first considered it my duty to send it to the General-in-Chief to warn him against that infernal machine, the terrible hat *a claque*, that the Board had devised for him; but the fear of it being a breach of confidence prevented me. However, the letter *was so* fascinating to its author that it was published in your columns, and has established the patent fact that the staff are the only ones in the service provided as *claqueurs*. Long may they *claque*. As an excuse for the foregoing to non-professional readers, I would say it is supposed to be French.

With all due respect to anti-petitioners' prejudices, it would seem that they do not distinguish between subordination and satisfaction. They would establish a very dangerous principle—that one must be satisfied with an order before executing it. I expect and hope to wear articles of uniform that do not satisfy my tastes most subordinationately for many years. I expect to execute many a duty whose propriety my judgment questions; but, for the sake of my seniors, I hope that they'll never shut their ears against knowing what a junior wants or needs. If the Secretary had not wished to satisfy the officers of the Army with their uniform he would not have called the board.

When great and paternal reproofs are uttered from a high pedestal to peers assuming the reproof that only lies with the highest authority, the boys below generally put their tongues in their cheeks and quietly ask, "Who told you so?"

For the satisfaction of "An Old Soldier" I will say that the Marine Corps have worn double rows of buttons, and the police of Savannah have been revelling in them for years. Mayor Havemeyer whispered to me (?) that he was going to give the Metropolitan another row

next year. They are worthy fellows, and should have them if they want them.

But, Leefe, what will become of you if somebody declares your petition insubordinate? I tremble for the result. Yours, etc.,

JOHN HAMILTON, Major First Artillery.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

MILITARY POMP AND MILITARY PRACTICE.—The militia at the close of the war, in the majority of the States, reorganized on an improved basis, and since have made rapid progress in drill and discipline. The abolition, however, of the serviceable Army dress for the new fangled dress-coats, which has taken place within the past few years, is rather suggestive of a return to the old-time fuss and feathers militia, so wont to parade our streets previous to the Rebellion. A short time since the Albany Express, in commenting editorially on some trouble in an Albany regiment, said: "One of the great mistakes of the militia system of the United States is, that instruction is not of a more practical nature; our citizen soldiery deeming it of more importance to expend their energies in devising elegant designs for 'claw-hammer' coats, fancy hats, and towering plumes, than forming plans to perfect themselves in the duties which make the soldier a machine, who will, in actual warfare, prove of service to his country. Instead of constant systematic drills in the winter, parades in the spring and autumn, with at least one week's encampment, in which the details of camp life are carried out as though in active service in the field, varied with target practice, we can answer for our local militia, by saying that apparently the most practical portion of their exercise is to make an annual inspection, and that is not always carried out according to the regulations. There are a few exceptional cases in which, however, some of our citizens take just pride—such organizations as the gallant Burgesses Corps—but unfortunately that interest militates against the interests of the National Guard organizations. These military companies cannot be carried on without money, and it scarcely can be expected that soldiers, especially the young men, are going to devote considerable time and energy in perfecting themselves in drill and discipline and then foot the bills for armories, uniforms, reception of military companies from other cities, etc. It is too much to expect of them, and they must not be blamed if they do not evince that ardor which one naturally should expect from a soldier. True it is, that there is many an officer who parades in all the glory of gold epaulets, sash, and clanking sword, who, if a musket was placed in his hands, would prove the veriest tyro; or, if in the artillery, could scarcely explain the parts of a gun carriage, but who has the brains and zeal to make an efficient officer if compelled to study and experiment with his command in practical evolutions, such as have been lately adopted in England, and copied by the military of one State at least; in the United States—Massachusetts. The splendid discipline of the Massachusetts militia was shown in a most practical way during the late fire in Boston."

THE ARMORY MUDDLE.—The Chairman of the Committee on Armories and Drill-Rooms of the New York Board of Supervisors, and General Funk, commanding the Second brigade, have had quite a "passage at arms" during the past week on a building called "Nilsson Hall" (in honor of the prima donna Mlle. Nilsson, we presume), leased some time since for armory purposes by the county. The matter is somewhat mixed at present, but it appears that this building, which is situated in East Fifteenth street near Third avenue, was recently offered by the proprietor to the agents of Colonel Stauff, at a yearly rental of \$6,000; but the proprietor, having ascertained that the building was intended for an armory, demanded \$10,000 and the payment of all taxes. The terms were agreed upon, conditional with the acceptance, by the county, of the lease, combined with a written guarantee that the lease hold good for ten years. Subsequently, the Committee on Armories and Drill-rooms leased the building at the rate of \$14,000 per year, and the payment of taxes, making a difference of no less than \$40,000 loss to the citizens and tax-payers. Messrs. Funk and Stauff, therefore, petition that the \$14,000 lease be cancelled. It is further set forth that Supervisor Conover authorized Colonel Stauff to select an armory, promising that when the lease should be accepted the building would be assigned to the use of the Ninety-sixth regiment, which is a matter of record on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors. Since the completion of the \$14,000 lease, however, the armory has been assigned to the Sixth regiment. There is certainly a "screw loose" somewhere, and it remains for some one to clear up a matter that on the face looks fraudulent in more respects than one. This building, if leased originally by Colonel Stauff's agent (who, report says, is General Funk) for \$6,000, should remain at that price. Does its use for the respectable purpose of an armory make it so valuable to the owner that he finds it necessary to increase the rental two-thirds, or is it because the county pays the rent instead of a private individual? We see no reason why the county should pay any more for renting buildings of this nature for armory purposes than the merest citizen. The time, we thought, was past for any further ring demonstrations, in this city at least; yet there is open evidence of something "rotten in Denmark" in this matter. The ques-

tions at issue are: Did the county rent this building for six, ten, or fourteen thousand dollars? Was it for the Sixth regiment, or a regiment numerically ninety better? And, finally, who committed the fraud, if there is any?

It appears from a statement submitted by the Chairman on Armories, that during the year 1872 the following leases were cancelled and made:

Tammany Hall, Sixth regiment.....	\$36,000
Armory, Twenty-seventh street and Ninth avenue—	
Eighth regiment.....	18,000
Smith's, Thirty-fourth street and Broadway—Twelfth	
regiment and Washington Gray Troop.....	30,000
First Cavalry, 37 and 39 Broadway.....	6,000
Total.....	\$90,000

LEASES MADE.

Twelfth regiment, Broadway, Forty-fourth and Forty-	
fifth street.....	\$24,000
Nilsson Hall—Sixth regiment.....	14,000
Release of Twenty-seventh street armory.....	12,000
Total.....	\$50,000
Amount saved to the county.....	\$40,000

The investigation ordered in the armory matter is now in process, and we trust for the credit of the city and the National Guard that the whole subject will be thoroughly sifted and the "soft impeachment" placed where it rightly belongs.

GOVERNOR HOFFMAN AND THE NATIONAL GUARD.—On Wednesday last Governor John T. Hoffman, the Commander-in-Chief of the National Guard of New York State, retired by limitation from office with military honors. It is our pleasure to say that Governor Hoffman, during his four years as the commander of the State troops, has, by reason of his official conduct and personal dignity, won the esteem and respect of every member of the National Guard who had the privilege of serving under him. We think we speak the mind of every officer and man, whatever his political bias, when we say that the State has had no Governor who gave more attention to the interests of the service, or who was more kindly and prompt in listening to propositions concerning its advancement, than the gentleman who now retires from the gubernatorial chair. No question has ever been presented which concerned the general benefit to the service without receiving the co-operation and sanction of Governor Hoffman. He was among the first to project a parade ground for the First division of this State, which is now to be consummated by the Park Commissioners and the First division commander. The prompt and firm stand taken by Governor Hoffman on the occasion of the July riot in New York won for him the respect of the best portion of the National Guard of the State. Governor Hoffman retires from office bearing with him the esteem and good wishes for his future welfare of every member of the National Guard of New York State.

At the close of the interesting ceremony of the inauguration of Governor Dix, the new governor of New York State, at Albany, January 1, ex-Governor Hoffman received his numerous friends at Congress Hall, and was afterward escorted by the Independent Jackson Corps, of Albany, to the cars. A very large crowd had gathered to participate in the demonstration. A number of leading citizens and State and city officials took places in the line, and the procession moved at about 1:30 o'clock. On reaching the depot ex-Governor Hoffman entered the drawing-room car provided for him by order of Commodore Vanderbilt, and there received the adieus of all who could get near him until the train left, at 2:40 P. M. He was accompanied on the trip to New York city by the following members of his staff: Brigadier-General S. W. Johnson, commissary-general of ordnance; Surgeon-General J. S. Mosher; Brigadier-General James B. Craig, judge-advocate-general; Colonels William F. Maller, Herman Uhl, and R. M. C. Graham. The Governor, with his wife and daughter, leaves for Europe January 8, and we, with his many friends, heartily wish him *bon voyage*.

GOVERNOR DIX'S STAFF.—The New York World has the following on the subject of the military staff of the Governor of New York:

Governor Dix has already selected the members of his military staff. For Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff he has selected General John F. Rathbone, of Albany. This, which is the most responsible post, could not have been better filled. In 1860 and 1861 General Rathbone was commandant of the Albany depot of Volunteers, and in the organization of between forty and fifty regiments of volunteers exhibited the same extraordinary capacity which long ago placed him at the head of the business men of Albany. No man in the State, we are inclined to think, contributed more efficient and telling, although unheralded, service, in the preparation of New York's Volunteers for the armies of the Union. The new Adjutant-General moreover will be able at a glance to distinguish between the muzzle and the breech of a gun, which is more than can be said of all the officers in our State militia. He is the best shot in the State at errant and vagarious game-birds on windy days at long range, and we do not doubt holds all pottering trap-pigeon shooters in such orthodox detestation as the hard-shell Baptist of the southwest is said to entertain for the unsubmerged believer. The duties of the Adjutant-General's office during Governor

Dix's term are not likely to put any strain upon that organizing and administrative faculty which General Rathbone lent so freely to his State when the need was, but this recognition of that loan is in every way fit to be made. And as, for once, public honor chances to fall upon a man whose life has been one of liberal spending, lending, and giving for the welfare of others, whose philanthropy has taken the form of good-will to all men and not of hatred to some, whose Christianity is charitable and kind, and whose private life is surrounded by every social charm, it has appeared permissible to congratulate the State and the Governor thereupon.

The other gentlemen of Governor Dix's staff are thus named in the Albany Journal, from which we quote:

General William H. Morris, the inspector-general, has served upon the staff as commissary-general of ordnance and also in the Army of the Union. He is a good soldier, and a cultured gentleman. General N. Gano Dunn, the engineer-in-chief, has been prominently identified with the military in New York, where he has acquired the reputation of a thorough and accomplished officer. The selection of J. Hampden Wood as judge-advocate-general will be warmly commended by his brethren of the bar in this city, and by the public. He holds honorable rank in his guild, and this appointment is a fitting recognition of his professional standing and personal worth.

General John N. Knapp, who takes the place of quartermaster-general, is the able and efficient secretary of the Republican State Committee, and a gentleman of high business and social position. The paymaster-generalship fitsly goes to General Rufus H. King, bearing a name and identified with a family honorably associated with the staff in the past, and whose distinction in this connection will be worthily maintained by the cultivated gentleman who receives this compliment. The Commissary-General of Subsistence, Theodore E. Smith, is a prominent and influential citizen of Rochester.

The aides are well chosen. Colonel Gilbert G. Haven is a gentleman of high standing in the financial and social circles of the metropolis. Colonel Chester Griswold is the eldest son of the late John A. Griswold, and his appointment is a graceful testimony both of the regard of Governor Dix for the memory of his lamented father and of his appreciation of the worth of the accomplished son. Colonel Robert C. Pruyn is the son of Robert H. Pruyn, and is equally fitted for the position of aide by his military tastes and his gentlemanly bearing. Colonel Hamilton Fish, Jr., inherits not only the name but the culture of the distinguished Secretary of State. Colonel William A. W. Stewart is the son of John A. Stewart, the well-known president of the Trust Company. Colonel Hiram P. Hopkins is the son of Comptroller Hopkins, and worthily represents the city which is honored in his selection.

The inauguration of Governor Dix took place at Albany on New Year's day, in the Assembly Chamber at 11 A. M. The weather was pleasant, the chamber was well filled with ladies and gentlemen, and the great hall of the Capitol was densely crowded. The military, consisting of the Tenth and Twenty-fifth regiments, and the Burgesses' Corps acting as a special escort, formed into line in State street, and proceeded to the residence of Adjutant-General John F. Rathbone, where General Dix was staying. Here the Governor-elect and his staff joined the procession, which reached the Capitol about 10:30 o'clock. General Dix was met by Governor Hoffman, who awaited him in the Executive Chamber, and, arm-in-arm, they entered the Assembly Chamber followed by their private secretaries, Colonel John D. Van Buren and John W. Dix, and the staff. The streets of Albany at any season of the year are not the best for the marching of troops, and their snow-blockaded condition, on the occasion of the inauguration of the Commander-in-Chief, had the effect of detracting from what otherwise would have been a fine military display. Still the whole matter was formal, and offered merely an expression of the good feelings on behalf of the National Guard of the State toward their new commander. General John F. Rathbone, adjutant-general on the staff of Governor Dix, announces the organization of his office as follows: Assistant Adjutant-General, John R. Stonehouse; Chief Clerk, Alfred H. Taylor; Clerks, David M. Putnam, Joseph A. Stratton, and John B. Sturtevant. Colonel F. M. Butler is appointed Chief of the War-Claims Office.

FORTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY.—This regiment, Colonel Austen, is ordered to assemble at the armory, Brooklyn, in fatigue uniform (white cross belts), for drill and instruction as follows: Right wing—Companies G, E, F, and B, January 9 and 21; left wing—Companies I, D, A, K, and C, January 10 and 22; the regiment, February 5. Assembly at 8 o'clock P. M. Lieutenant Wm. C. Wetherbee, of Company A, has been appointed quartermaster, vice Kniffin resigned; and the following members discharged: Drum-Major Henry D. G. Rohlf, Sergeant Joseph R. Kettner, Company E, First Sergeant Edwin Moore, Company B, and Privates John D. W. Lauckhardt, Company G, Moses Clifford, Company F, and D. W. Dietrich, and Washington L. Baker—all by expiration of term of service; Privates William L. Young, Company F, Samuel H. Ferguson, Company D, and Hilton W. Bisby, Company I, physical disability.

HOWITZER BATTERY, ELEVENTH BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION.—An election in this battery to fill vacancy caused by the resignation of Corporal C. Rawlings, and such other va-

cancies as may occur, is ordered to be held at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, Brooklyn, on Monday evening, January 6, 1873, at 8 o'clock. In compliance with section 1, article 4, of the by-laws, the annual meeting will be held on Monday evening, January 6, 1873, when the finance, executive, and recruiting committees will be prepared to present their reports.

SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION.—The Examining Board, established by G. O. No. 15, c. s., from brigade headquarters, was dissolved December 23 and a new board instituted comprising the following officers: Colonel John H. Budke, commanding Third Cavalry; Colonel Frederick Vilmar, commanding Eleventh Infantry; Colonel Andrew Stauf, commanding Ninety-sixth Infantry. First Lieutenant Burton Drew, aide-de-camp, will act as recorder of the board. This board will convene at the headquarters Second brigade on Wednesday, January 8, 1873, at 8 o'clock p. m. for organization.

BOSTON ARMORIES.—The following statement of the comparatively small amounts appropriated by the Boston Council for repairs during the past year to the company armories of several regiments of the Massachusetts Volunteer militia, located in that city, will be found interesting, particularly when it is remembered that these amounts are simply for improving and furnishing armories:

First regiment, headquarters on Pemberton square, \$300; Company B (East Boston), \$250; Company F (Boston Highlands), \$250; Company I (Dorchester), \$500; Company K (South Boston), \$500—total, \$1,800. Ninth regiment, headquarters on Essex street (altering, repairing, furnishing, etc.), \$1,200; Company A, \$200; Company B, \$400; Company C, \$150; Company F (South Boston), \$400; Company H (East Boston), \$250; Company I, \$500; Company K (South Boston), \$250—armory since burned. Total, \$3,350. First Battalion of Infantry—Company D, \$400; Second battalion—Company A (colored), \$200; First Battalion of Cavalry—Company A (Lancers), \$1,200. The headquarters of the Battalion of Artillery on Tremont street have been approved and an appropriation therefor will soon be made.

A JUVENILE COMPETITIVE DRILL.—On Friday evening of last week the Williamsburgh Cadet Corps, comprising the sons of the members of the Turn Verein of this district of Brooklyn held a competitive drill at Turn Halle, the headquarters of the association. There was a large audience present, and the judges comprised the officers of the Twenty-eighth and Thirty-second regiments. Only two companies of the three composing the cadet battalion competed, the junior or third company being considered too infantile, the members scarcely averaging six years of age, while the ages of the other companies reach as high as fourteen or fifteen years. The drill was in accordance with prescribed movements in the school of the soldier, Upton's Tactics. The drill was so exceedingly well throughout that we forbear criticism, preferring to commend the young soldiers and their instructor, Lieutenant-Colonel Rueger, of the Thirty-second regiment, for their extraordinary perfection in drill, etc. The young commandants were very well informed, and gave the commands in very good style, the commandant of the first company, though losing in the competition, being the best officer of the two. At the close of the competition the second company was declared the winner of the gold medal offered as a prize. Colonel Burger made the presentation at the conclusion of the whole proceedings. The companies, after the competitive drill was over, formed a battalion of three companies of sixteen files each, and executed several movements in the school of the battalion, some of which were a little irregular; the boys, however, did exceedingly well. Before the competition the battalion was reviewed by Colonel Burger, accompanied by the judges in competition, after which a dress parade was had in very good style. The whole proceedings were very interesting, and showed conclusively that sometimes even boys are more proficient in drill than children of larger growth.

FIRST INFANTRY.—This regiment is ordered to assemble at the State Arsenal, in fatigue uniform, straight pants without leggings, for battalion drill on the following evenings: January 17, and February 17. Officers and the non-commissioned staff are ordered to meet at the armory on the following evenings, at 8 p. m., for theoretical instruction: January 10, and February 11. The following staff appointments are announced: Eugene Mix, assistant commissary of subsistence; Eugene Tucker, assistant surgeon; R. Livingston Luckey, adjutant. Members are notified that they will appear at the last battalion drill of the season in the new full-dress uniform; and as sufficient time will then have elapsed for all to procure it, no excuse will be received for not wearing it on that occasion.

VARIOUS ITEMS.—The recent decision of the Attorney-General of the State of Massachusetts to the effect that the attendance of brigade commanders upon regimental and battalion encampments is not required by law, and that no pay should be allowed for such attendance, will probably cause the matter to be brought to the attention of the new Legislature. It is claimed that at these encampments the brigade commanders are afforded the only opportunity of the year for seeing the brigade organizations together, and, although the law is clear, it has always been the custom for brigade commanders to visit the camps and be allowed pay or so doing. Many military men deprecate the raising of a

technical point on a matter of this kind, and if pay is withheld an amendment to militia laws will probably be urged at the next session of the General Court. The members of Company D, Ninth, Captain Bowlend, on Tuesday attended in citizen's dress the funeral of their late comrade Charles P. Barlow, who died suddenly on Sunday last. Sedgwick Post No. 11 G. A. R., commanded by Captain Langbein, was also in attendance at the funeral. The second annual invitation military and civic ball of Company C, Forty-seventh, takes place January 7 at Apollo Hall, Brooklyn, E. D. The Boston Ninth has grown so large, apparently, that Colonel Finan, some time since, decided to form it into two distinct battalions, the First battalion being under the command of the lieutenant-colonel, and the Second battalion under the command of the major, both of these officers assuming direct control of the battalions under their command, the colonel exercising a general supervision and control over all. According to the directions of the regimental commander, these officers are ordered to visit, officially, the company armories, and make monthly reports of the condition of arms and other State property, the frequency of drills, the number in attendance, the deportment of members, and the attention and efficiency of officers. They will thoroughly and impartially search for any causes detrimental to the interests of the command, and suggest such improvements as a careful examination and their own judgment may dictate. All communications requiring the action of regimental headquarters will be forwarded through, and indorsed (where practicable) upon the personal knowledge of battalion commanders, and in all matters pertaining to the regiment the relations of companies to the battalion commanders will be the same as formerly to the commanding officer of the regiment. The two battalion commanders, therefore, have issued separate General Orders, assuming command of their respective battalions, so that now the famous Boston Ninth has virtually three heads, which in many things beside military is frequently considered far better than one. The First regiment, First Battalion of Infantry, and a portion of the Fifth regiment M. V. M. are receiving pay for special duty during the fire in Boston. New York troops would have to wait a year or more if they had been similarly employed; that is, judging by past experience. Still the pay seems a small consideration with the troops, for they have always exhibited most praiseworthy promptness in matters that appertain to the public welfare. Breech-loaders have been issued to nearly all the organizations of the Massachusetts militia, for whom they were originally intended. About seven hundred breech-loaders remain to be disposed of. The holidays have materially affected National Guard news, but there is a "good time coming boys; wait a little longer." Fortunately for the interests of the National Guard of New York, the new Adjutant-General is reported as being one of the "crack shots" of the State. His advocacy of rifle practice and hearty co-operation with the National Rifle Association is therefore well assured. Major Fred. J. Karcher, the invincible, issued most appalling looking New Year cards for circulation among his friends. The one we received represented the "Old Boy" (not Karcher) rushing away with the old year on his fork at a "right shoulder," and Fred. J. Karcher on a rail at a "carry." Major Wills, Adjutant Pape, and Captain Heerd, of the Twenty-eighth, are preparing a street firing manual. The Twenty-eighth regiment has adopted the new regulation belt. Germain Metternich Post No. 122, Grand Army of the Republic, elected Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick W. Obernier, Major Fred. J. Karcher, and Adjutant Emil C. Walter as delegates to the grand encampment to be held at Elmira this month. The resignation of First Lieutenant Celestin Simon, Thirty-second regiment, has been accepted by the Commander-in-Chief. The National Guard Riding Club, under the command of Lieutenant Peter Bertsch, of the Eleventh brigade Cavalry, has attained considerable proficiency since its organization. The new members, generally, create much amusement for the spectators. Last Sunday Dr. Orth, of the Thirty-second, was thrown from his horse, but fortunately was not injured. A foreign item states that medical men having been called in to examine the body of Colonel Edward Ambrose Vaughan, late of the North Gloucestershire (England) militia, whose funeral had been twice deferred from a belief that he was in a state of coma, have pronounced him dead. It strikes us that the condition of this deceased officer is to be likened unto some of the officers of the militia of the United States, who for many years have been in a comatose condition, and the sooner they are officially declared dead, the better it will be for the interests of the service. The officers of the Thirty-second regiment on New Year's day gave their commandant, Colonel Henry Rdw. Roehr a—call. The dancing order of Company I Twenty-eighth battalion, Captain Heerd, was handsomely and humorously arranged. Captain John Schweizer, Twenty-eighth battalion, will indulge in a military sleigh-ride excursion, if it takes all summer. On Monday evening next the Eleventh brigade Separate Troop Cavalry, Captain John Kreuscher, and Battery B, Second division, Major John Timmes, will celebrate their annual ball at the Military Hall and Turn Hall, respectively. These organizations never fail to make them entertaining. We have the assurance that the "big bugs" will favor them with their presence. The pleasant affair at the house of Colonel Burger, Twenty-eighth battalion, will be noticed in our next.

The long talked of twenty-third annual ball of Company I, Twenty-eighth battalion, Captain William Heerd, Jr., took place last Monday evening at the Military Hall, Williamsburgh. It was a grand success in every particular. The ball-room was tastefully decorated with military insignia, the ladies were elegantly attired, and the "heroes" in gorgeous military array. The music by Frank's Twenty-eighth regimental band discoursed soul-stirring strains, inspiring the "fair women and brave men;" and the delicacies of the season renewed their energies at the midnight hour, and when the last note died away Company I was congratulated upon its success. Among the military gentlemen we noticed Colonel Burger, Lieutenant-Colonel Obernier, Major Wills, Captain Schweizer, Major Timmes, Captain Kreuscher, Lieutenant Tony Behlen, Commodore Meyericks, Captain Dohling of the "Burger Blues," Captain Petry, Major Karcher, Lieutenant-Colonel Rueger, Captain Bossert of the Thirty-second, Captain Brenner, and others whose names we cannot recall. During the evening the company was drawn up in line, and Captain Merkert, the former commandant of the "Jefferson Blues," presented the company with his portrait. A communication from Captain Hufnagle, Third regiment, has been received, but too late for publication. A mandamus from Judge Pratt has been served on the the Kings county Supervisors, requiring the Board to build an armory for Company I, Forty-seventh regiment, in accordance with an act of the last Legislature. Corporation Counsel has announced that, in his opinion, the mandamus did not compel the employment of Mr. Jacobs, the lowest bidder, but that there should be competition on the basis of definite plans and specifications. The clerk was authorized to advertise anew for plans and specifications for a new armory, 45x95 feet in extent, and one story high, the cost not to exceed \$10,000. The citizens of Brooklyn, as well as the Supervisors, deem this armory one of the instances of the folly of special legislation in these matters, and disastrous to the interests of the National Guard. Still the bill is a law, and there is no going behind it; so it is useless to further dispute the matter. If Greenpoint must have an armory, why go to work and build one: and let the I of the Forty-seventh see that it is done, and let us have an end on't. An expert, who was the first to suggest a paid fire department for New York city, and was present during the burning of the Fifth avenue theatre on New Year's Day, asks us to recognize (as we gladly do) the ability and service of Major-General Shaler, who was present in the most exposed situations and coolly and effectively directed the operations of his subordinates.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. H. T., Astoria, Oregon.—Promotions from rank and file have not ceased, and General Orders No. 93, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant-General's Office, of October 31, 1867, is now in force. No further back than last October, a sergeant-major and a hospital steward were appointed second lieutenants.

J. W., Fort Macon, N. C.—An opinion cannot be given on an abstract case, as the circumstances and the place where the shooting occurred are not given in your question. Still the duty of a soldier is to obey orders.

OLD SOLDIER, FIRST CAVALRY.—It is generally supposed that non-commissioned officers are appointed for merit. We do not know of any regiments where promotions are made by means of competitive examinations. Good officers will always promote those best qualified. Paragraph 73 of the Regulations states that regimental commanders, upon the recommendation of company commanders, will appoint the sergeants and corporals of companies.

F. C. P., San Francisco.—There is nothing against an application for a commission as second lieutenant being made, as there are several vacancies. There are no permanent boards of examination now sitting, but are convened as occasion requires. General Orders No. 93, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant-General's Office, of October 31, 1867, gives full information on the subject as to age and qualifications, to whom application is to be made, etc.

HANNIBAL.—Candidates for appointment as cadet midshipmen must be between 14 and 18 years of age when examined for admission. The details regarding admissions in the Naval Academy have been frequently given in the JOURNAL.

M. R. HAIGHT.—The latter, or the form having the rank, name, etc., at the head of the letter sheet having the addressing prefix, colonel, is considered correct. This form is invariably used in the Regular Army, and is in accordance with the system of keeping official records, etc., prescribed by the War Department on the 1st of January, 1871.

WILLIAM N. CHAPMAN has not been heard from since November 6, 1872, on his way to Boston, from 44 Taylor street, Brooklyn. He is five feet six inches in height, has large dark eyes, Roman nose, dark hair, moustache, and side-whiskers, broad square forehead, and looks like a Frenchman. Had on one of his fingers a gold band ring chased with black enamel; motto inside, "To my love." Had on a black soft round hat, dark cloth pants, with brown stripes, dark dress coat, square cut, in inside pocket a picture of his wife and baby—a dark overcoat. Full style—small foot, wears No. 4, lady's size. He is travelling agent for Healy & Morse's Patent Clothes Winger and Rubber business of New York and Boston, and was on his way to their house in Boston.

It is thought that he may have enlisted in the Army or the Navy. Any one having information as to his whereabouts, or knowledge of him will please call or address by note MRS. HENDERSON, 79 KENT AV., BROOKLYN, E. D., N. Y.

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[From the Military Correspondent of the London Telegraph.]

SOLDIERING IN RUSSIA.

As yet Russia is far behind other nations in general education—that indispensable element in the social development of a people. But all that can be done to supply the want is being done. National schools are being established in every parish, and during the next decade we may even see compulsory education in force. At present, though the Army is the school of the country and though its system is excellent its influence is comparatively limited. Docile and willing to learn as Russian soldiers are, they have little or no opportunity of doing so before enlistment; consequently the long frosts and heavy snows of winter, which prevent any outdoor military exercises besides occasional route-marching, have to be turned to advantage in the formation of classes, conducted by the company officers, who pursue their uninviting task for four or five hours every day from November to March, with an intensity of zeal which deserves the success obtained.

But the training of the non-commissioned officers is one of the most remarkable features in the Russian regimental organization. Every regiment of infantry or cavalry, brigade of field artillery, or battery of horse artillery, has a non-commissioned officers' school, divided into two classes. Lance-corporals of two years' service and good promise, who can read and write well, are eligible for admission. The course of study lasts two years. During the first year general subjects are taught, whereas in the second year more attention is paid to military matters. The pupils live apart; and promotion is not a necessary prize even for the first graduate, unless accompanied by skill in arms and tact in command. The standard of excellence is incredible, and is so great that most of the non-commissioned officers thus trained are admirably suited to fulfil the duties of the national schoolmasters—the dearth of whom is at present one of the greatest obstacles to educational progress. A commission is attainable by any non-commissioned officer who passes the necessary examination; many of them do pass, and decline the officers' rank, which entitles to an annuity of about £15 during service, and to wear additional lace.

Miserably paid, and almost worse fed, on what is not calculated to make men thrive—on black, sour bread, and a sprinkling of meat mixed up with rice and herbs, with a perfectly non-intoxicating and terribly sour beverage to drink—the Russian soldier so flourishes that he can endure almost any fatigue or hardship. His spirits and good humor never flag. In every company, squadron, or battery, a certain number of the men dance, sing, and play on all sorts of wild-sounding instruments. When marching at ease, these men always come out to the front of their comrades, and, without delaying the march, perform their curious antics, and enliven the route with their shrill music. If discipline is measured by the amount of crime, Russia yields the palm to no country. Drunkenness exists, but to no great extent. The men are honest and submissive, as individuals, to any degree. Two or three prisoners in the morning—and there are rarely more—do not form an excessive allowance for three battalions. And if discipline is measured by the respect shown to officers, here again Russia is nothing behind, for saluting and military attitude in address are never disregarded. Now and again, indeed, it is said that the orthodox cry of Russian soldiery when ordered to perform a special duty, "We gladly obey you" ("Radi staratsya"), comes out sulkily, or is replaced by a low growl. Yet no positive assertion can be made on this score. Russian soldiers receive a suit of uniform per annum, the newest suit being reserved for gala occasions. At the end of the fourth year the suit, or rather what is left of it, becomes the property of the soldier. Companies, squadrons and batteries make up their own clothing during the winter, even to the spinning of the braid.

We can here but briefly touch on the more striking characteristics of the various arms; but first it will be well to glance at the four departments common to all branches of the service—the Ecclesiastical, the Transport, the Commissariat, and the Medical. To every regiment and battery is attached a clergyman; and, although attendance at divine service is perfectly voluntary, there are few absentees. The Russian soldier shares the religious character of his countrymen. Few individuals, and no companies, are without a patron saint. At nightfall, in barracks, in camp, or on the march, his image is surrounded by devout worshippers, whose prayers are led by a non-commissioned officer. But it is in solving that most difficult problem of army transport that General Milutin has excelled. In Russia it is now managed regimentally. Every squadron of cavalry and every company of infantry has one provision wagon with six days' rations. Every regiment of cavalry has one ammunition wagon with thirty rounds for each carbine and twenty for each pistol. Every company of infantry has one ammunition wagon containing forty rounds per man. The wagons are hosed by three horses driven abreast—or by two in time of peace, when also but one per company of infantry is maintained. Besides these, each regiment has an orderly-room wagon, with lithographing press, by which the orders are printed daily; four ambulances, one hospital car, and one medicine cart; and the first regiment of each division has a band wagon, hosed only in time of war. None can tell as yet how the Russian commissariat, which broke down so fatally during the Crimea, will now stand the crucial test of war.

Although the deficiency of medical officers is still very serious, the regulations which govern that department are wise and provident. To provide a due number of surgeons, the Government gives a free education at the medical university, in return for three years' service in the army when required. In the field, regimental and divisional hospitals are organized; but this is not all. In addition, each squadron, company, or subdivision of two guns, is attended by a trained apothecary, provided with proper medicaments and surgical appliances. Besides this, the officers' servants and unarmed men are taught the leading principles of military surgery, and

drilled periodically in the most approved methods of removing the wounded from the field of battle and affording them temporary relief. Moreover, in some regiments the senior surgeon gives occasional lectures to the officers and men on the first steps to be taken when wounded, if skilled assistance is not at hand. It is also in contemplation to provide each man with a roll of lint. The present sanitary condition of the Russian army is considered to be in all respects satisfactory; but rheumatism and consumption are undoubtedly on the increase, mainly through the poor lodging of the troops. The guards have barracks, but the troops of the line are billeted in the peasants' huts, and, if there is not sufficient room in one district, in contiguous villages—every regiment being brought together under canvas from May to October. Barracks are about to be erected, it is said, but it must be long ere they exist.

The infantry of the Russian service is undoubtedly the most important arm, not only from its numerical strength, but also from its high state of efficiency. It consists of 188 regiments—of which ten belong to the Guard—with 580 infantry and thirty-two rifle battalions. Most regiments consist of three battalions of four companies, and one rifle company. The three rifle companies of a regiment are formed into a battalion in the field. There are four establishments which regulate the strength of a battalion—the war establishment, with 900 rank and file; the augmented peace establishment; the peace establishment; and the cadre establishment, with 330 rank-and-file. It may almost be said that each regiment has a fourth, or reserve, battalion—for there is one which bears its number but not its name, and which trains the recruits during the first six months; but it is in every detail quite independent. Although most regiments bear the names of a locality or an illustrious personage, they are quartered quite irrespectively. A company of infantry on the war footing has four officers and 211 non-commissioned officers and men.

The Russian Infantry is at present armed with the Krinok converted rifle, but the Berdan breechloader will shortly be issued to the whole army. The weapons of all, except those of the rifle companies, and eight picked shots per company, whose sights are adjusted to 1200 yards, are only sighted up to 600 yards. The men carry ninety rounds of ammunition, besides which forty rounds are conveyed in the company transport, and sixty more with the artillery reserve. Bayonets are always fixed. In spite of the 68 lbs. (including three days' provisions) which the Russian foot-soldier has to carry, it is questionable if he has any rival on the march. With their trousers tucked into long boots, the Russian infantry step out so fast that, once a hundred yards ahead, no walking effort will diminish the distance; and thus they go on, day after day, existing on food upon which English troops would starve. Great attention is paid to gymnastic exercises. Not a barrack-room or a camping-ground but is provided with apparatus on which the men practise daily. The bayonet exercise is also much cultivated; and, by means of matches and other encouragements, reaches a high point of perfection. When contending parties meet in sham fights, they charge through each other, holding the rifles perpendicularly aloft, to prevent the men falling into a habit of halting before a real charge.

The movements of the Russian infantry are loose, but very rapid. On the march they generally move in column of sections, though fours are also employed. But, to make the infantry wholly independent of the other arms, ten men per regiment are annually attached to the artillery, so that there are always eighty men (with eight years' service) available to help that arm in case of need; while eight men per company carry entrenching tools, and have been instructed in throwing up temporary works. Besides, most men can use the hatchet—all wooden buildings in Russia are built with the hatchet alone—and can cook and sew. Therefore, together with the company transport system and bearers of the wounded, a Russian infantry regiment is completely independent of extraneous aid: a state of matters which adds greatly to its efficiency.

(From the N. Y. Times.)

OUR WESTERN PALMYRAS.

TRAVELLERS' tales are proverbially to be taken with salt, and we must pause before accepting as gospel the wondrous accounts that come to us of the remains of vast cities on the plains of Arizona. Yet, where there is so much smoke there is sure to be some fire, and the subject is interesting and important enough to warrant examination, if only to determine how far the evidence in hand squares with probable facts. The story told by Colonel W. T. Roberts, and printed December 19 in the *Denver News*, is, we may observe, substantially the same as that told by several explorers before. The reports concur in declaring that in remote parts of Arizona there exist well-preserved and extensive ruins, which are assumed to be those of once populous cities. Colonel Roberts's city covers about three square miles. It is surrounded by a wall of sandstone, "neatly quarried and dressed," ten or twelve feet thick, and originally—judging by the *talus*—fifteen or twenty feet high. Within are the walls of houses, temples, and markets, all of solid stone, and showing excellent masonry. These walls bear numerous hieroglyphics, cut deeply into the stone. The whole of the ruins, like most of those of the Orient, and more especially those of Arabia and Assyria, are more or less buried in sand. According to the account, this city is some ninety miles from the boundary between Utah and Arizona, and an equal distance from the Western Colorado line. Its situation can therefore be precisely determined on the maps. By these it proves to be close to the desert, and, in truth, environed by extensive sandy plains. This accounts for the lateness of modern discoveries, since neither Indians nor whites would be likely to penetrate such desolate wilds; and it indicates also that, since the city was built, the climate and soil of the region have undergone extensive changes.

It appears that the party of Colonel Roberts were

diamond hunting, and had lost themselves among the sandy wastes when the city was discovered. Only such an object as this would have led people to penetrate to a spot so forbidding, since there is food for neither man nor beast, and water is so scarce that at one time the wayfarers were thirty-six hours without it. The description of the city is almost identical with what various travellers have given before; and we think there is little reason to doubt its substantial accuracy. The only difficult question is, how far the love of the wonderful, or imperfect observation, may have led to misrepresentation of the true character of the ruins. Until we have more minute and authoritative descriptions, we must remain in doubt whether these "cities" belong to the class of "Casas Grandes," such as are still built by the Moquis Indians, or are to be set down as relics of the ancient Nahuatlacas, and as marking one stage in the migration southward of the Seven Tribes incorrectly generalized as Aztecs. This decision is a very nice and delicate one, and is altogether unlikely to be arrived at through the testimony of stray travellers. To reach it will require something like the combined knowledge of an Agassiz and a Rawlinson. We may hope, however, that such knowledge will sooner or later be applied; that thus one of the most profoundly interesting enigmas of the western Continent will be solved, and that its solution, co-ordinated with other discoveries made in the East, will lead to additions of considerable value to our early history of the globe and of mankind.

Traditions among the Indians, and all existing Mexican records, concur with the early Spanish chronicles in describing the Seven Tribes as having originally wandered away from their parent stock, after an immense deluge, and a subsequent fresh distribution of tongues. If the Arizona cities were indeed built by the Nahuatlacas, it is in the highest degree probable then, indeed morally certain, that the hieroglyphics on their walls commemorate those great events. It may not be possible as yet to read them. A long time passed after their discovery before we knew how to read the cuneiform inscriptions of Persia, of Assyria, and of Babylonia. But Rawlinson came, and the work was done. Only the other day has the modern world been enlightened by a translation of the famous Chaldean account of the Deluge. By and by, when the inscriptions of Arizona are interpreted, the two may be collated, and the Asiatic origin of the Aztec race clearly established. Even if this were done, however, it would not settle the problem of the first peopling of America, or demonstrate the superior antiquity of the Old World; for the Aztecs were preceded by a race called the "Toltecs," of much higher culture and broader civilization; and the Toltecs are held, by the best authorities, to have come from the south. Still, to discover the origin of the Aztecs would be a great point gained, and would doubtless lead to other valuable knowledge; and, if the hieroglyphics of Arizona contain further information respecting the Deluge and its consequences, the archaeological importance of the discovery can hardly be overestimated. It may be worth while for our Government to send out, at an appropriate time, a competent expedition to examine and report on the new-found wonders of Arizona—wonders that in their historic and ethnological relations may prove of greater importance than even the natural phenomena which have lately invited to criticise the language of one who reveals to us truths of such transcendent importance.

A despatch from San Francisco, December 23, states that advices from Arizona to December 14 have been received. General Crook's scouts have taken the field from Date Creek, Camp Whipple, Camp Verde, Apache Camp, Camp McDowell, and Camp Grant, and are moving towards the country occupied by the Tonto and Final Apaches. The scouts are assisted by Piu Ute, Apache, and Yuma Indians. The hostile Apaches of the Upper Verde river are retreating to the mountains. It is generally believed that the hostile tribes will be brought to terms during this winter's campaign. From New Mexico comes the report that the Indians on the Upper Rio Grande are becoming very troublesome, the region between Fort Clark and El Paso being infested by bands of Arapahoes, Kiowas, and Mesquero Apaches. From the Pacific coast, we still continue to receive reports of hostile operations by the Modoc Indians, though we have thus far no advice sufficiently reliable to form an opinion as to the significance of the outbreak.

THE Austrian war budget amounts to 108 million gulden for the army and navy; i. e., ninety-eight million for the army, and ten millions for the navy.

FACTS FOR THE LADIES.—Mrs. Dr. W. Torrence, New York, uses her Wheeler & Wilson's Lock-Stitch Machine for her own family sewing, and besides doing her household work earns more than a dollar per day as pastime. See the new Improvements and Woods' Lock-Stitch Ripper.

BIRTH.

RILEY.—At Camp Harney, Oregon, December 3, to the wife of First Lieutenant T. F. Riley, Twenty-first Infantry, a son.

COOKE.—At Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., December 29, 1872, the wife of Commander A. P. Cooke, U. S. Navy, of a son.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

NYE.—ARMSTRONG.—At Fort Sanders, Wyoming Territory, November 20, 1872, by Rev. F. E. Arnold, F. E. NYE, U. S. Army, to KATE A. ARMSTRONG. (No cards.)

DIED.

GREENE.—At St. Paul, Minn., December 16, 1872, of scarlet fever, EMILIA ("Little Sister"), daughter of General O. D. and Kate Greene, aged four years and five months.

VERNON.—At Philadelphia, Pa., on the 20th inst., MARY DUNCAN LASKELL, wife of Charles A. Vernon, U. S. Army.

DEWEY.—At Newport, R. I., December 28, SUSAN B., wife of Commander George Dewey, U. S. N., and youngest daughter of Hon. I. Goodwin, of Portsmouth, N. H.